

POSTERS: AURELIO VIDMAR and MARK VIDUKA

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SYDNEY

The logo for United Soccer Club features the word "UNITED" in large, bold, blue capital letters with a white outline. Below it, the words "SOCCER CLUB" are written in smaller, bold, white capital letters. The background is dark blue with a subtle pattern.

MOVING TO ASIA?

Editorial

The Australian Soccer team is in South Africa. By the time you read this they will have played their first match and will be preparing for their second tomorrow night.

The Socceroos are taking part in the Simba Cup with the home country, Ghana and Kenya. Ghana toured Australia last year for 'A' internationals.

The country from the west coast of the vast continent of Africa, have similar challenges to Australia when called on to put an international team on the park. That is that many of their top flight players are full time professionals in other countries.

Just like our own Aussies they can't be called back for anything less than World Cup or Olympic Games qualifiers.

The question arises whether international matches such as the Simba Cup should be designated 'B' and not 'A'. Some would argue that regardless, the players are representing their country and therefore deserve full recognition.

An alternative is that if all players were available then quite a large percentage of the selected party would not get a run.

However to represent ones country is a great honour. To do so at full international level is the tops. It should surely only come to a select few. Otherwise international matches will be devalued and no longer will it be something to strive for.

On that basis there is an argument for designating certain games 'B'. To be recognised by your country at 'B' international level is still an achievement and only one step below 'A'.

Players could progress from Youth, to 'B', before going on to the 'A' or full international teams. It would give Australia's coaching staff another avenue for player development.

There would then be a good reason to shine at the lower level in order to be considered for the top echelon.

Debate concerning the commitment of players when wearing the Green and Gold is not at issue here. Despite this, it must be disheartening to play your heart out, perform above expectations but when the big games come, be pushed aside by the blokes making it big overseas.

Will Eddie Thomson be able to, or want to, call on overseas based players for the Confederations Cup Oceania two legged qualifier next month?

If he has to use only players from the Ericsson Cup teams, at least many of them will have international experience.

— Bob Brooks

BY BOB BROOKS

One of our sister publications carried a story last Friday that Australia's national men's coach, Eddie Thomson was soon to leave these shores for richer pickings in Asia.

Whether there is any truth in the story is not for this piece to decide however let's try to work out why a top line, accomplished Australia based coach might or might not take such a position.

For one thing if you have charge of Australia's senior international team then you face some particular challenges. Most of the quality players are with overseas clubs in Malaysia, Croatia, Italy, Belgium, Scotland, Switzerland, France, England, Greece and Spain.

How does a coach decide which players are the best for Australia? Does a position with a Second Division club in England equate to Belgium's top competition. How will a sweeper from an Ericsson Cup side fit in with a goalkeeper from England's Premier League?

More importantly when can the coach of the Socceroos get his full squad together for a camp, and where should it be? In Europe, in Australia?

A full time position overseas is, and for the moment must remain, every Australian players aim. Who wouldn't want to earn their living from the World Game?

Australia's Senior international coach is on a hiding to nothing. A contract with Soccer Australia until 1998 is wonderful but if you can't get your squad together except rarely, is it really worthwhile?

On the other hand coaching a Club side in the J-League could be very appealing especially with the amount of money available in Japan.

Just because Thomson doesn't speak Japanese, as far as we know, is not something that would stop him. Soccer language is after all universal.

Brazilian, Italian, Argentine and English players have gone to Japan and

proved big draw cards. They must have overcome the language barrier. Added to which many Japanese people are keen to use their English skills to assist the visitor to their fascinating country.

When everything is weighed up who could blame a highly respected coach like Thomson moving to say Japan?

At least all his players would be his, twice a day every day instead of possibly twice a year for a few days each time.

As is obvious, Japan is determined to rise in the

world soccer scene. Their recent victory over Brazil in the Olympic Games tournament can be taken as a pointer to the future.

Japan will be desperate to do well in the 2002 World Cup which they are co-hosting with South Korea.

Their youngsters are coming in droves to Australia for intensive coaching. This is very pleasing for the organisations making money from these initiatives but the Land of the rising sun could soon be running ahead of the Land down Under.



Eddie Thomson: Challenging job as Australia's coach.



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Weakened United Kneel to Olympic

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

Norm Tome, UTS Olympic's young striker, again proved to be his team's hero, scoring the game's solitary goal in the 63rd minute last Friday night in the second leg of the Johnnie Walker Cup at the United Sports Centre to lift Olympic into the second Round against the Brisbane winners.

While Tome proved to be Olympic's hero, in reality it was their powerful and alert goalkeeper George Bouhoutsos who was his team's real saviour. He stood between Olympic and defeat.

In the 19th and 27th minutes Bouhoutsos was left looking down the barrel of two certain United goalscoring chances. With magnificent reflexes, the shaven-headed custodian with hair-raising blocks, denied Milicic and United, on both occasions, any joy from point blank range.

Olympic's substitute, lanky left midfielder Elias Augerinos, 18 minutes after halftime cleverly punched a neat through-ball into Tome's path. The hungry striker from an acute angle on the left, in a flash, slammed into the far side of the target. This goal gave Olympic two wins in the first round of the Cup over United by the same scoreline through the same scorer.

But as was the case in First Leg Sydney United far outplayed Olympic, grabbing control of the

entire midfield through the youngster, Jason Culina, and the more experienced Ante Moric, Paul Bilokapic and Chad Gibson, with Ante Milicic excelling in the role of 'linkman'.

Olympic's only other real chance came in the 50th minute when valuable utility player Scott Baillie tried to flick into the target a Nick Meredith pass.

Subdued Olympic coach David Ratcliffe later stated, "In the first half we sat back too much defending our 1-0 lead from the leg 1 match. Having won we seemed to just sit back to protect it."

Meanwhile a philosophical United coach, Branko Culina analysed, "We still have seven players to come into the side, so I'm not too worried for the moment."

Short of playing staff, Sydney United coach Culina was forced in leg 1, to promote his 18 year old son Dean, to fill the role of sweeper in which the youngster excelled.

But last Friday night, whilst Dean missed the match through injury, the desperate Culina gambled by upgrading his younger son, 16 year old Jason, a right-back-cum-midfielder. Jason also has now caused problems for his father, as he too turned in a blinder for United.

How can an NSL coach have two of his teenage sons in the first team?

Simple. Sack the coach and keep the kids in the team. (only joking).



David Ratcliffe: Has led his team, Olympic to Cup Second round after they defeated Sydney United over two legs of First round.



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UTS OLYMPIC:

Bouhoutsos: Sorras, Ganta, Barrett, I. Zelic, Baillie: Emerton, Tekenis, Meredith (Bove 80), Tome (Andone 77), Gonzalez (Augerinos 46).

SYDNEY UNITED:

Perosh: Rudan, Vrkic, Kupresak: J. Culina, Moric (Maric 20), Bilokapic, Milicic, Gibson, Zdrilic, Markovak (Deur 66).

Scorer:

Olympic: Tome(63).

Yellow Cards:

Bilokapic (11).

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AFL STICKING TO GUNS

The fight to stop AFL clubs running soccer sides took another twist last week when Soccer Australia revealed two more AFL clubs had joined league powers Carlton and Collingwood in seeking admission to the Ericsson Cup.

Soccer Australia chairman David Hill refused to reveal which clubs were involved but confirmed they had expressed interest in operating national soccer league sides.

"I can't say who they are, only that they are both from Melbourne," Hill said.

We had one approach directly from an AFL club and another through Victorian soccer officials."

Hill said expressions of interest came before the AFL introduced a new ruling banning its clubs from aligning with soccer sides.

Hill was in Melbourne to meet with AFL operations manager Ian Collins to try and avert a costly court battle over

AFL clubs running soccer sides.

He also met with Collingwood, which is threatening legal action if the AFL attempts to block its move into soccer this season.

The soccer chairman said that the AFL however was sticking to its guns.

"It sees soccer as a major threat to the AFL. We did not reconcile our differences."

The chairman of the Victorian Soccer Federation Henry Siwka confirmed that he had been a mediator for an approach by one AFL club.

"But I can't say who it is as I gave my word I would not tell, I won't be spilling the beans."

"I have had talks with Soccer Australia about the approaches, but there are still a lot of things that have to be assessed."

He warned that unless the AFL embraced the idea of a super sports club it would wither as a power within 15 years.

U.K. SOCCER

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Soccer Shorts . . .

It's amazing where ABSW is read. The write in competition to win a sports shirt from ASICS attracted an entry from Wiltshire, England. It was from a Soccer fan who had seen the Australian women perform in the USA. Lisa Casagrande had caught the fan's eye. As you may remember the women played against the USA and China as warm up games prior to those other country's involvement in the Atlanta Games.



It was interesting to hear Joao Havelange, President of FIFA, calling on the Olympics organisers to ensure that

future football tournaments at the Games are closer to the host city.

Australia's men competed in a group based in Florida. Now that is high on 1,000kms from Atlanta, Georgia.

The semi finals and finals of both men's and women's events were held in Athens, Georgia. This smallish city is a couple of hours drive from Atlanta.



Immediately before and during the Atlanta Games, attendance records were set by football in a number of stadia. No apology is made for using 'football' instead of 'soccer' because that is what the

tournament is known as at the Olympic Games.

At the Giants Stadium, New York, FIFA XI versus Brazil's Olympic team almost 80,000. RFK Stadium, Washington 58,000, this was USA versus Portugal.

Incredibly for the doubting Thomas or Tammy, the World record for an attendance at a women's sporting event was broken. This was at the Olympic final when the USA and China drew 76,489.

1,364,250 fans flocked to the stadia, an average of almost 40,000 a game!



The two contestants for the NSW Waratah Cup Final will be known by the time we go to press. See the NSW page for details.

This knock out Cup is the richest of its type in Australia. \$50,000 awaits the winning club.

However do not make the mistake that all of the prize money is shared amongst the victorious team members.

Some clubs choose to retain the whole of the booty in their coffers. At least the players get a medal to keep!



Did you know that one AFL club has had a baseball team performing on their oval

for the last few years.

The National Baseball League plays their competition during the warmer months so the team does not interfere with the Aussie Rules activities.

Strange that the AFL has never objected to that, isn't it?



Dates have been confirmed for the FIFA Confederations Cup for the King Fahd Trophy.

The first games are on Friday December 12 with the Final on Sunday December 21. These are in 1997.

It is generally believed that Australia will be the

representative of Oceania. It is vital that the strongest team takes the field and that means overseas based Socceroos must be prised away from their clubs.

Australia has an opportunity to shine against Brazil, Uruguay, Mexico, South Africa, Germany, Saudi Arabia and the eventual Asian representative nation.

Obviously training camps will be needed in Europe to prepare the required players for this new competition.

★ ★ ★
All World Cup results can be obtained from FIFA On-Line on the World Wide Web under:
<http://www.fifa.com>



With the J-League so popular in Japan, foreign players are going there to participate and be paid very well, when will Australian men be recruited?

This could be players but don't be surprised if it's Australian coaches.

Already two of Australia's women internationals are full time players in Japan.

★ ★ ★
So Arsenal have sacked yet another Manager. Just what is going on at Highbury? Now it's Stewart Houston's turn to depart. The third choice has moved in but he is only temporary — or is he?

AUSTRALIA DOWN GHANA IN SIMBA CUP

Australia beat Ghana 2-0 and host South Africa downed Kenya 1-0 at the start of the Simba Cup tournament on Saturday.

Australia was too strong and disciplined for a make-shift Ghanaian team containing just one regular international.

Damian Mori slipped his marker to head home from close range just on half-time.

Paul Trimboli was set in the clear by hard-working midfielder Craig Foster to score with a first-time shot in the 69th.

In the late match, debutant Dumisa Ngobe struck a long range shot to give South Africa a 1-0 win over Kenya.

Ngobe, one of five new caps for the African champions, blasted home a brilliant effort as South Africa made a rampant start to the match in front of a 46,000-strong crowd.

But the South Africans faded after that and had to



Damian Mori: Provided first goal right on half time.



Paul Trimboli: Provided the closing goal from a through ball provided by Craig Foster.

Tovey made a vital clearance off the line in the last minute from Henry Motego's shot as Kenya laid siege to the home team's goal.

Australia and South Africa meet tomorrow in Johannesburg preceded by a clash between Ghana and Kenya.

★ ★ ★

Teams:
AUSTRALIA: Kalac; Blagojevic, Tobin, Ivanovic, Popovic; Hooker, Tapai, Marth (Polak 83), Foster; Trimboli, Mori.

GHANA: Kingston; Amankwah, Adjei, Nettey, Baidoo, Kuffour; Sakyi, Dadzie, Kumah; Allotey, Aryee.

SOUTH AFRICA: Arendse; Tshisevhe, Tovey, Burton; Buthelezi, Moeti, Khumalo, Ngobe (Fortune 78), Mkhalele; Madida, Bartlett (Sikhosana 70).

KENYA: Otomax; Kwarula, Oduor, Omolo, Otieno; Juma (Abdallah 53), Motego, Sholei (Otieno 78), Lwanga; Odhiambo (Ambani 86), Okoth.

survive some anxious moments at the end as Kenya slowly forced their way back into the match.
South African captain Neil

Waratah Cup Marconi 1 Sydney Utd 3

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

In the Waratah Cup Semi Final last Sunday at Marconi Stadium Sydney United defeated Marconi 3-1 in a convincing display.

United's intelligent scheming midfielder, David Zdrilic waltzed around Marconi's giant goalkeeper Bobby Caplin and from an acute angle on the left pushed inside the post to open the score.

Within two minutes United doubled the tally when midfielder Robbie Enes crossed from the right for striker Robbie Markovac to score with a flat right footed volley.

Seven minutes from half time Marconi's central marker Aaron Holst beat two defenders inside United's box to square to striker Sean Babic who in turn set up his fellow striker the powerful Andy Harper on the back post to score easily from close range.

Sydney United made it 3-1 when defender Chad Gibson tapped in a cross from the right whipped in by striker Markovac.

Seven minutes from time Marconi missed a glorious chance for their second goal when substitute Brad Maloney volleyed a Bingley cross from the left to hit the under-side of the horizontal.

After the match Marconi's disappointed coach Manfred Schaefer stated to ABSW "They played extremely well and punished us on the counter attack."

Meanwhile, United's victorious coach Branko Culina evaluated "The tempo of the game was quite slow I thought, and we had two or three more chances that we did not capitalise on. Winning games is all about confidence and positive thinking and I wanted to unload the responsibility of scoring from the strikers."

"It is everyone's responsibility to score and I was pleased when our first

goal and last were scored by a midfielder and a defender."

MARCONI: Caplin; Stanton, Holst, De Marigny (Cassidy 46); Souris, Hristodoulou (Ravanello 58), Bingley, Renaud, Zoric (Maloney 46); Harper, Babic.

SYDNEY UNITED: Blazincic; Wrikkic, Kupresak, D. Culina, Gibson; Enes (J. Culina 77), Burns, Bilokapic; Zdrilic, Milicic, Markovac (Deur 82).

SCORERS: Marconi: Harper (38). United: Zdrilic (30), Markovac (32), Gibson (50).

YELLOW CARDS: Nil
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★ ★ ★

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WHY THE JOHNNIE WALKER CUP HAS ITS PLACE IN NATIONAL COMPETITION HISTORY

BY GREG BLAKE

The cut-throat nature of the Johnnie Walker Cup is always likely to toss up its share of upsets, particularly this season as the competition has become a higher-profile pre-season tournament.

With coaches and clubs still very much in the experimental stages of the campaign and the summer league itself still a month away there is every reason to think that this tradition of unlikely winners will continue.

The significant statistic which probably sums up the cup's history is that only twice in 20 years has the league championship winning team 'done the double', with Adelaide City in 1991/92 winning it all for the first time and Melbourne Knights repeating that feat in 1994/95.

The Knights' 1995 win was a 6-0 Cup Final record score against a Heidelberg side which has lost more cup finals (four) than any club in competition history.

Despite not always being well accepted, the Johnnie Walker Cup still has this rich history all of its own, with the romance of the cup not lost on some competition lesser lights of the past two decades.

Players, coaches and fans have complained, often with some justification, about various aspects of the knock-out competition since the national league started in 1977, yet it has survived and provided some memorable moments as well as some stunning upsets.

Although looked upon as a pale diversion from the real thing, try telling supporters from clubs like Parramatta and Heidelberg that winning the cup wasn't worth the effort in recent years.

Brisbane for the third time in five years, with Brisbane Lions now down in the history books as the last Queensland side to land a national soccer trophy.

Ironically, the Lions are back to compete in the cup this year for the first time in the 1990s.

Heidelberg United came back to lose successive finals in 1982 and 1983, against Apia and Olympic respectively, leaving the superb Bergers team of that time with three losses in finals in four years. Also they twice finished runners-up in the championship proper during the same period.

The rankest outsider to ever steal the cup was the 1984 Newcastle Rosebud team which rose from obscurity as the replacement team for Newcastle United and stole the trophy from Melbourne Knights on a cold and wet mid-winter Melbourne evening.

Olympic's last-minute winner in Sydney to defeat Preston in '85, ranks as one of the most thrilling of all the cup finals. The 1986 win of Sydney City stands in the history books as this club's last hoorah at the end of a glorious era which ended ignominiously as the club collapsed just a few months later.

Sydney United won its first and still only national trophy in 1987 and the end of Apia as a national force came when it edged to victory on penalties in the dreariest of finals in 1988.

Adelaide City commenced its era of domination in the last winter season of 1989 and South Melbourne broke the Melbourne drought when it beat Olympic in the summer of 1989/90.

Raul Blanco's Parramatta Eagles had their best-ever season in 1990/91, making the league play-offs for the first in recent years.

time and capping the season with a cup victory.

The '91 final was another last-minute thriller and Preston was again the victim as the Eagles' Greg Brown grabbed the only goal of the game in second half injury time.

Heidelberg won its only national title when it beat Parramatta in the 1992/93 final, although the Eagles bounced back to claim the cup in 1993/94 to complete a remarkable run of three finals in four seasons for that club.

Last year South Melbourne's lamentable league finish was compensated by controversial victory over Newcastle Breakers.

In 1981 the cup went to

Johnnie Walker Cup Finals 1977 to 1995/96

Year	Result	Venue	Crowd
1977	Brisbane City 1 (Tokesi) — Marconi 1 (Sharne) AET Bris. won 5-3 on penalties.	Perry Park, Brisbane	Est. 9,000
1978	Brisbane City 2 (Kelso, Pimblett) — Adelaide City 1 (Matic).	Perry Park, Brisbane.	Est. 6,500
1979	Adelaide City 3 (J. Nyskohus 2, B. Nyskohus) — St George 2 (O'Connor, J. O'Shea).	Olympic Sports Field, Adelaide.	Not available
1980	Heidelberg Utd 0 — Marconi 0 AET in Melbourne. Marconi 3 (Byrne pen., Krncevic, Sharne) — Heidelberg Utd 0 in replay in Sydney.	Olympic Park, Melbourne. and St. George Stadium, Sydney.	Not available
1981	Brisbane Lions 3 (Daunt, Ferris, Williamson) — West Adelaide 1 (Topaz)	Bruce Stadium, Canberra.	Est. 7,000
1982	Heidelberg Utd 1 (Campbell) — Apia Leichhardt 2 (McBreen, Butler)	Olympic Park, Melbourne.	Est. 8,500
1983	1st Leg: UTS Olympic 1 (Patalis) — Heidelberg Utd 0 2nd Leg: Heidelberg Utd 0 UTS Olympic 1 (Patalis). Olympic won 2-0 on aggregate.	St. George Stadium, Sydney and Olympic Park, Melbourne.	1st Leg: 6,240 2nd Leg: 6,110
1984	Melbourne Knights 0 — Newcastle Rosebud 1 (Todd).	Olympic Park, Melbourne.	4,023
1985	UTS Olympic 2 (Soper, Raskopoulos) — Preston 1 (Cole)	St George Stadium, Sydney.	6,147
1986	West Adelaide 2 (Hristodoulou 2) — Sydney City 3 (Farina 2, Kosmina) AET 1-1 after 90 minutes.	Hindmarsh Stadium, Adelaide.	Est. 3,200
1987	1st Leg: Sydney Utd 1 (Slater) — South Melbourne 0. 2nd Leg: South Melbourne 0 — Sydney Utd 1 (Arnold). United won 2-0 on aggregate.	St George Stadium, Sydney and Olympic Park, Melbourne.	1st Leg: 3,845 2nd Leg: 8,956
1988	Apia Leichhardt 0 — Melbourne Zebras 0. AET. Apia won 5-3 on penalties.	Marconi Stadium, Sydney.	Est. 2,200
1989	Adelaide City 2 (Maxwell, A. Vidmar) — UTS Olympic 0.	Hindmarsh Stadium, Adelaide.	9,048
89/90	South Melbourne 4 (Taliadoros, Petersen, Trimboli pen., Tsolakis) — UTS Olympic 1 (Edwards).	Olympic Park, Melbourne.	8,790
90/91	Parramatta Eagles 2 (Brown) — Preston 0.	Marconi Stadium, Sydney.	6,749
91/92	Adelaide City 2 (Mullen, T. Vidmar) — Marconi 1 (Jones).	Hindmarsh Stadium, Adelaide.	3,102
92/93	Parramatta Eagles 1 (Reda) — Heidelberg Utd 2 (Scott, Slifkas).	Marconi Stadium, Sydney.	2,596
93/94	Parramatta Eagles 2 (Kupresak own goal, Renaud) — Sydney Utd 0.	Marconi Stadium, Sydney.	4,156
94/95	Melbourne Knights 6 (Spiteri 2, Viduka 2, Horvat, Biskic) — Heidelberg Utd 0.	Olympic Park, Melbourne.	5,041
95/96	South Melbourne 3 (Coveny 2, Panopoulos) — Newcastle Breakers 1 (Hickman).	Bob Jane Stadium, Melbourne.	3,651

With the current series now underway in the most recent of several formats used to decide the competition winner, we present a glance back (above) at the history of the often underrated cup competition.

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The Johnnie Walker Cup Experts (1977 to 1995/96)

Team	Winners	Runners-up	Semis/Better
Adelaide City	3	1	8
UTS Olympic	2	2	5
South Melbourne	2	1	9
Apia Leichhardt	2	0	6
Parramatta Eagles	2	1	3
Brisbane City	2	0	2
Heidelberg Utd	1	4	8
Marconi Fairfield	1	2	6
Sydney United	1	1	4
Melbourne Knights	1	1	3
Brisbane Lions	1	0	3
Newcastle Rosebud	1	0	2
Sydney City	1	0	1
West Adelaide	0	2	3
Preston	0	2	2
Melbourne Zebras	0	1	1
St George	0	1	1
Newcastle Breakers	0	1	1
Canberra City	0	0	4
Newcastle United	0	0	2
Brisbane Strikers	0	0	2
Melbourne City	0	0	1
Sunshine G. Cross	0	0	1
Canberra Cosmos	0	0	1



Eddie Krncevic: Scored second goal for Marconi in 1980 Cup.



"Oh, my word, what a magnificent goal! . . ."

Do You Have The Talent And Ambition

To Be The Next

Martin Tyler?

★ ★ ★
SBS Television, Australia's multicultural broadcaster and the national soccer network, wants to find the soccer commentators of the future in PERTH, BRISBANE & ADELAIDE.

A sound knowledge of local and international soccer is essential.

Experience in radio and/or television is preferred.

Your commentary style and delivery will be commensurate with standards set by SBS. (No screamers and bellowers, please)

★ ★ ★
Send a soccer commentary demo tape and resume to:

Executive Producer:

SBS Sport,

Locked Bag 028,

Crows Nest NSW 2065.

SBS is an equal opportunity employer

Cups Confusion

Dear Sir,
The current situation of both the Johnnie Walker (JWC) Cup and Waratah Cup running at the same time is a farce and just confuses the average soccer supporter.

Attendance at both Cups has been nothing short of disastrous, and with the overlap and tight match schedule among the cups, who would blame supporters for giving them the flick.

First there was the debacle of club logos and then the cancellation (twice) of the UTS Olympic v Sydney

United JWC match.

It's no secret that the State Federations really don't give two hoots about the National Competition and that they would rather have it be unsuccessful and have elite State Competitions like they used to.

Until this internal rivalry between States goes away, unfortunately soccer in our country will battle within its own boundaries instead of giving the other codes something to worry about.

T. Golding,
Hurstville, NSW.

No change in opinion

Dear Sir,

I must commend Tony Muscat for his very thoughtful letter but while it does not change my opinion I would like to clarify a few points for his benefit.

1. I have always acknowledged the limitations and shortcomings of the ethnic soccer clubs but until there is a better alternative its a case of beggars can't be choosers. While the failings of the ethnic soccer clubs have been more than well documented far too little acknowledgment has been given to the good things the ethnic clubs have done for Australian soccer and make no mistake they are real and substantial.

2. TM correctly notes that people in clubs, pubs, schools, etc the mainstream have no interest in the ethnic soccer clubs. Like me I am sure he can remember back to a time before 1960 and even later when people in vast areas of Sydney didn't even know the basic rules of soccer. In the AFL states and all Country areas (Hunter region excepted) the awareness of soccer was even less. There is only one reason

why this situation no longer exists.

3. TM in his youth was a fan of the old Canterbury Soccer club which for a few short years was a major force in Sydney club soccer during the early part of the NSW Federation's golden era 1957-64. When the "Berries" ran into serious financial difficulties mainly caused by incredible incompetence even though the club had a significant number of supporters no serious effort was made to rescue the club. Subsequently it went out of existence in the guise of a takeover. If the Canterbury supporters would have had even half the passion and zeal for their club that various ethnic groups have displayed over the years then in all probabilities Canterbury would still be a major force in Sydney soccer to this day. The situation in senior club level soccer within Australia is a much truer level of so called "market forces" than many people want to admit. I rest my case with thanks again to Mr Muscat for a very good letter.

R Melor
Bondi, NSW.

Letters to the Editor

Have your say on any soccer issue in the world. Preference will be given to short letters. Include daytime phone number for verification.



The Editor,
AUSTRALIAN &
BRITISH SOCCER
WEEKLY
PO BOX 155,
MARRICKVILLE
NSW 2204
Fax: (02) 9550-9332

Short letters of about 400 words will be given preference in this column.

The opinions expressed on this page do not necessarily reflect those of this newspaper

COMMENDATION FOR DAVID HILL

Dear Sir,

As a very keen supporter of the most popular game in the world, the ethnic logo debate has made me realise why this great game of ours isn't progressing as it should be Soccer Australia's design to remove ethnic flags from team shirts should be seen as taking a step forward in the right direction.

However, it seems to me that there are a number of people who are hell bent on stalling the game's progress for their own personal reasons.

We are all Australians, and yes we shouldn't forget our origins, but this should not be seen as a vendetta against the ethnic component in our game.

Sydney United, Marconi and Melbourne Knights members and supporters should take a good hard look at themselves and ask what drives them to attend their club's games. If it is to see a game of football between their side and the opposition, then fine, but if it is to go and make a point of the fact that they are Italian, Croatian, Greek or whatever, then maybe they should stay home.

The administrators of these clubs are also partly to blame.

Instead of addressing their members and explaining that this decision is based on trying to bolster their presence in an already tough market place, it almost seems as though they are trying to instigate a rebellion against S.A.

For someone to say they will stop attending their clubs games because the Croation, Italian or Greek national flags are not on display, merely suggests that they are not football lovers but people who want to make a political statement of their ethnic background.

These people we can do without. Football is the "people's game" regardless of colour origin or religion. As long as we remember this and adhere to it, we will attract the neutral supporters and eventually the big corporate dollars.

David Hill should be commended for having the guts to make these long awaited decisions.

He should not be subject to the sort of backlash he is perceiving from a stubborn, tunnel vision minority.

Keep up the good work David!

Ernie Papadopoulos,
Kidman Park S.A.

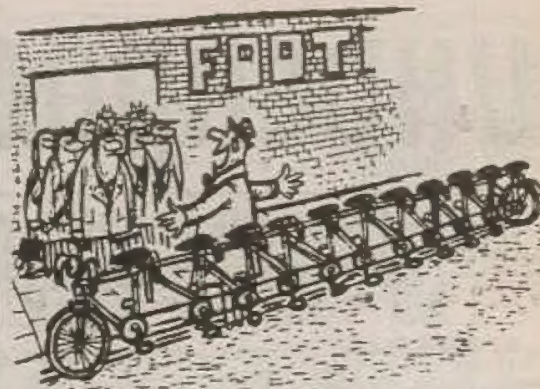
Cups Chaos . . .

Dear Sir,

Perhaps instead of wasting everyone's time worrying about 'logo s' and all these cosmetic changes Mr. Hill could do something about the mess that is the 'Johnnie Walker Cup'. I mean, what is difficult about organising such a small knock-out tournament and having all the games together at the same time? They do that in Europe where the number of participants runs into the hundreds.

People wonder why this tournament cannot capture the imagination of the public in the same way as the FA Cup does in England? That is because we cannot keep up with what is going on because nobody seems to know, starting with Soccer Australia. Furthermore to hold the Waratah Cup at the same time just turns the whole game of soccer into a pantomime.

Perhaps these people responsible have been getting into their Johnnie Walker product a bit too much!
Samuel Ely, Dulacca, QLD.



"I promised you all a trip to Sydney. So let's go!"

Collingwood on international stage

Dear Sir,

I am an avid reader of your publication and read the letters to the editor column with interest. I'd firstly like to congratulate ABSW on its efforts to keep us fans informed on our game throughout the year.

As there are many rapid changes occurring in the national league, it is understandable that these changes and David Hill who is responsible for them, are the main topics in this column.

I have not contributed to this column before, preferring to read with some bemusement the thoughts of Mr. Melor and like-minded readers.

I just want to now voice my support of everything Mr. Hill is attempting to accomplish with our code, and the way he is going about it is the only way to go about it! If you think he is being too hard headed about the changes that need to be made, then consider his predecessors failure in the 20 year history

of the league to make any progress in mainstreaming our great game.

I believe the greatest breakthrough to have been made by Mr. Hill is enlisting the participation of the two greatest clubs in the country, Collingwood and Carlton.

I believe that five years down the track, with the participation of these two clubs, all the residual problems that exist today will be bulldozed aside.

Not only will these clubs set the standard in every respect, they will drag the surviving clubs along with them.

I believe we will then begin to see the league we had always dreamed of.

And as for Collingwood and Carlton, soccer may one day afford them an international stage to parade their colours and do their thing.

But for now, first things first, go get 'em David Hill!!!
Phillip Nicolaides,
Brisbane, QLD.

Editor's Note:

Would **Tony Ising** who wrote a letter to the Editor on 10/9/96 please send in his contact phone number and address.

THE ROMANCE OF THE WORLD CUP

Australia's route to France 98 kicked off in Lae, Papua New Guinea yesterday, Monday 16th when the host nation played Solomon Islands in the first of a series of matches which will ultimately determine who will meet the 4th Asian Nation for a place in France.

The three-team tournament or 'Melanesian Group', also includes Vanuatu and the eventual winner will go forward into the next round and another Three-Team-Round Robin together with New Zealand and Fiji, who have both been seeded.

However, because this is deemed the stronger half of Oceanian 'Island' Football, the runner-up of this tournament gets another bite of the cherry.

In November, the other half or 'Polynesian Group' hold a similar Tournament in Tonga, with Cook Islands and Western Samoa joining

the hosts.

But, the eventual winners will have to play off against the afore-mentioned 'Melanesian Group' runners-up and the victor of this tie will then make up another Three-Team group together with Australia and Tahiti.

During next year the two Final Groups will play-off to produce two winners (expected to be Australia and New Zealand) who will meet for the right to represent the Oceanian Confederation against the 4th Team from the Asian Confederation World Cup Qualifiers.

The resulting winner of that tie will of course go to join the Creme-de-la-creme of World Football in France.



Melanesian Group Matches

Mon. 16 September:
Papua New Guinea v Solomon Islands
Thur. 19 September:
Solomon Islands v Vanuatu
Sun. 22 September:
Papua New Guinea v Vanuatu

The 'Polynesian Group' Tournament will take place from November 9th to November 16th

Parramatta Eagles Soccer Club

1995-1996 season Youth League Super Youth League Trials

13 yrs — 6.30pm — 15, 22, 29 Oct, 5 Nov
14 yrs — 6.30pm — 17, 24, 31 Oct, 7 Nov
15 yrs — 6.30pm — 18, 25 Oct, 1, 8 Nov
16 yrs — 9.30am — 20, 27 Oct, 3, 10 Nov

At Everley Park, Everley Road, Chester Hill
Applications are invited for Youth League coaches.
Expression of interest is being sought.

Apply with details of experience and qualifications to:

The Secretary,
Parramatta Eagles Youth League,
Melita Stadium,
Everley Road,
Chester Hill NSW 2162.

Applications close 1 October, 1996
For all enquiries contact:

Vince Balzan on 018 280 539 or 9645 4413

COMMONWEALTH BANK BILL TURNER CUP

CUP FINALS

BY DANE SKAFTE

Patrician Brothers, Fairfield have won the 1996 Bill Turner Soccer Cup Final with a 1-0 win over Holy Cross, Ryde at the Breakers Stadium last Wednesday night.

Both sides had their chances in the first half but solid defence held the score line level until just before half time.

Patrician Brothers opened the scoring in the 29th minute after some good team work by midfielder Allan Lo Proto who crossed the ball to Adam Talumbo who was unmarked in the area and he side footed the ball past goal keeper Paul Carbone.

Holy Cross came out fired up in the second half and were determined to level the scores. Their best opportunity came in the 41st minute after a cracking shot by Arthur Diles was touched over the bar by keeper Ricky White after it was on target for goals.

In the final five minutes Holy Cross attempted to pull the goal back hitting several shots at the Patrician Brothers keeper but he was equal to the task.

With only seconds left in the match Holy Cross made a last minute attempt after an outstanding solo effort by Lee Miot who beat three defenders and knocked the ball square to his team mate Anthony Spagnolo who only had to side foot the ball home but he missed a sitter from close



Kirwan State High School (QLD): (Back row L to R) Shane Calder (coach), Keiran Ropwland, William Lutton, Adam Hubbard, Nathan Turner, Chris Marks, Geoffrey Rowe, Troy Dattinger, Adam Colley (manager). (Front row L to R) Kerry Cattle, Daniel Airens, Darryl Hathway, Peter Ronchese, Dominic Pozzebon, Mark Bagley, Jon Marquez, Josh Vinnecombe. Kirwan State High from Thuringowa were the losing Queensland Finalists to St. Joseph's, Nudgee.

range.

Patrician Brothers Coach Neale Williamson was overwhelmed with his team's excellent performance quoting, "We deserved to win tonight and the boys showed plenty of commitment."

Full credit must go to Holy Cross they continued to

pressure us in the last five minutes," Williamson said.

The star player of the finals went to Patrician Brothers, Alan Lo Proto for his outstanding effort in the final match. Quoting, "I was very pleased to win this award and I knew I had a good chance leading up to the final two

matches," Lo Proto said.

The Terry Hampton Perpetual Trophy was won by Holy Cross College, Ryde.

In the earlier match for the third and fourth places, St Josephs Nudgee (Queensland) played a 1-1 draw with Kurringal High from Wagga. This was St Josephs first ever

side in the Bill Turner Cup Final and the finish in the top four was a great result. Well Done boys!

St Josephs opened their account in the third minute courtesy of Eddie Green who hammered a ball home after a cross by Chad O'Donnell. St Josephs took control of the

match early and looked very dangerous and were unlucky not to have scored three times in the opening 15 minutes.

St Josephs best chance came in the 17th minute when defender Anthony Mullins outplayed several of the Wagga defenders only to see his shot hit the woodwork.

Team mate Steve Packer waited for the rebounded but it went wide of the post. Kurringal High's only chance came in the 24th minute when a header by Laurie Harbon went wide of the post.

St Josephs had the better of the first half with only the cross bar and strong goal keeping by Sam Chambers keeping the scores at 1-0.

Kurringal levelled the scores in controversial circumstances in the 45th minute after a cross found Gavin Case unmarked and he slipped the ball past Malcolm Dan De Graas. Several of the St Josephs players were upset about the goal after an earlier incident when a St Josephs player was allegedly fouled by a Wagga defender but Referee Neville Hill took no action.

St Josephs Eddie Green was unlucky not to have scored his second goal when his header shaved the upright. The final score 1-1.

St Josephs Director of Soccer Tony Clarke agreed that it was a great game, "All the boys played wonderful, we had several chances throughout the game but full credit to Kurringal High. Congratulations to both teams who made it through to the Final and thanks to all the parents for their support."

To get in the top four is a real bonus," Clarke said.

★ ★ ★

Queensland Final Man of the Match Presentation

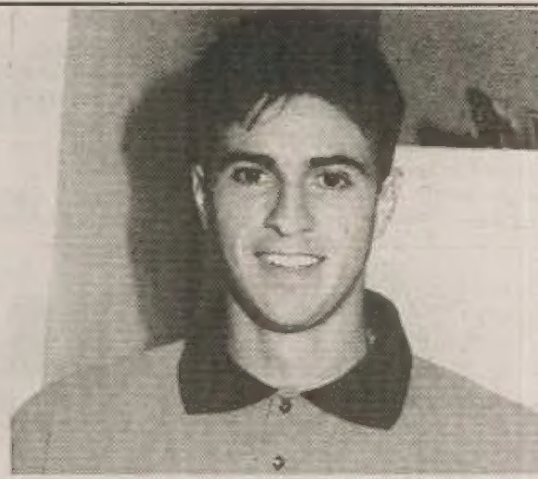


Mr Ron Lyonsk, General Manager Commonwealth Bank (Queensland) Public Relations Department: Presenting the Man of the Match to Kirwan State High's Darryl Hathway. The game took place at Bundaberg against St. Joseph's, Nudgee.

Aussie Star

Paul Okon (right) is now playing for Lazio in Italy.

He learnt some of his soccer from playing for his school in such competitions as the Commonwealth Bank Bill Turner Cup.



Sydney Olympic Soccer Club Limited

Club Limited

INVITE APPLICATIONS

For the following coaching positions

UNDER 13
UNDER 14
UNDER 15
UNDER 16

Youth League 1996/97 season.

Minimum Level 2 coaching accreditation essential.
Please send written application in confidence to:

Football Manager,
UTS Olympic Soccer Club,
64 Tennent Parade,
Hurlstone Park, 2193.

CLOSING DATE SEPTEMBER 18, 1996.

Coca Cola Young Socceroos Touring Squad to South America

Les Scheinflug will lead a squad of eighteen players on a three nation tour of South America starting later this month.

The squad is all Under 20 and will play a minimum of eight games in Chile, Argentina and Uruguay before returning home on Monday October 21.

Eight of the touring party are from Victoria, five from NSW, two from the ACT, two from south Australia and one from Queensland. A number already have Ericsson cup experience. This tour will weld them into a well drilled unit in preparation for the Youth World Cup to be held in Malaysia next year.



Daniel Allsopp: Teenage striker whose career is starting to blossom.

Young Socceroos:

Daniel Allsopp (South Melbourne)
Matt Bell (QAS)
Con Blatsis (South Melbourne)
Michael Curcija (South Melbourne)
Billy Damianos (South Melbourne)
Brett Emerton (UTS Olympic)
Michael Garcia (Canberra Cosmos)
Vaughan Hunter (Marconi)
Danny Milosevic (Canberra Cosmos)
Draji Nasteviski (Melbourne Knights)
Michael Pirone (Adelaide City)
Mark Robertson (Marconi)
Costa Salapsidis (Adelaide City)
Josip Simunic (Melbourne Knights)
Andrew Vargas (VIS)
Clayton Zane (Newcastle Breakers)
Ivan Zelic (UTS Olympic)
Peter Zios (VIS).



Con Blatsis: 20 year old midfielder on his way to South America.

AUSSIES IN ENGLAND

Star performance of last week goes to Steve Corica who won Wolves a penalty after being bundled over in the box by Charlton Athletic's full-back Jamie Stuart.

Andy Thompson's conversion proved to be the match winner.

Charlton Manager Alan Curbishley thought it was a harsh decision because Corica never really had the ball under control.

Elsewhere in the UK Robbie Slater had a hand in Southampton's equaliser against mighty Liverpool at awesome Anfield. He supplied the pass for Magilton which drew the scores level at 1-1 but the Reds stole back

the two points in the last minute through Steve



McManaman.

Steve Mautone kept a blank sheet in Crewe's goal (won 1-0 at Bournemouth Div 2). He is on loan there from West Ham.

Not such good news concerning Frank Talia formerly of Blackburn but now with Swindon who went down 1-2 at Grimsby (Div 1).

Paul Agostino was substituted by David Seal in

Bristol City's 2-1 win over Preston then substituted Goater in their 1-0 win over Torquay.

Stan Lazaridis missed West Ham's 0-0 draw in Sunderland but played against Ravanelli, Juninho and Co at Middlesbrough Riverside for exactly one hour before being substituted by Romanian Ilie Dumitrescu. Alas, the Hammers were hammered 1-4.

Andrew Bernal put in a full 90 minutes for Reading in their 2-0 win over Oxford United (Div 1) as did Lucas Neill in Millwalls 2-0 home win over Bristol Rovers.

Still in Division 1, both Kevin Muscat and Carl Veart also enjoyed a full game for Crystal Palace in their creditable 2-2 draw with Stoke at the Victoria Ground.



Steve Corica - Star of the Week for Wolverhampton Wanderers against Charlton

WOLVES UP FOR DAMAGES OVER KALAC

English premier league club Leicester City has won its claim against Wolverhampton Wanderers for \$A500,000 damages over the collapse of the proposed transfer of Australian goalkeeper Zeljko Kalac.

Wolves entered into a conditional agreement with Leicester that they would buy Kalac if they could get a work permit for him.

When Wolves pulled out of the deal, Leicester sought damages and last week a 90 minute commission at the Football League's headquarters ruled in

Leicester's favour.

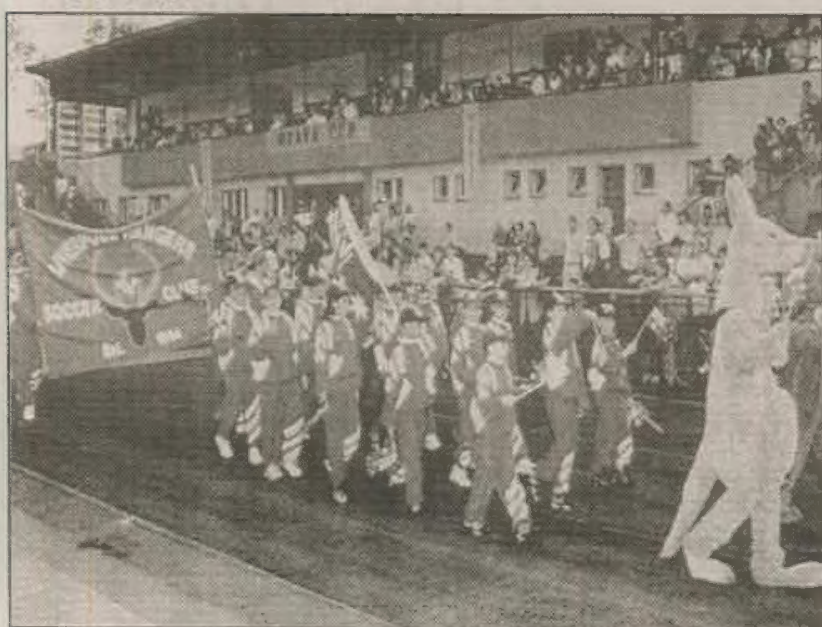
The commission was attended by Wolves boss Mark McGhee, Leicester manager Martin O'Neill and the club's respective chairmen, Johnathan Hayward and Tom Smeaton.

Leicester argued Wolves had agreed a joint \$A3.5 million deal for Australians Steve Corica and Kalac.

Corica's move was completed \$A2.15million but Kalac's fell through.

"We are delighted the commission have found a breach of contract by Wolves and that damages have been awarded," said Smeaton.

A European Cup in Australia



Liverpool Rangers: Join in the march past at the Otaba Cup with the two Aussie icons leading.

Being the first Australian junior soccer team to bring home a European Cup, the Under 11 Liverpool Rangers are the Champions.

The NSW team defeated Italy in the Final of the 1996 Otaba Cup held in the Czech Republic. Western Media Promotions, the Australian, New Zealand and South Pacific official representative of FIFA & UEFA'S Euro-Sporting, made it possible for the young Australians to be ambassadors for their country and their sport.

Our young soccer hopefuls had the opportunity to kick off on foreign soil. "The Liverpool Rangers have achieved what no other Australian junior soccer team has. Not only did they win the hearts of the people

overseas, they also brought home the cup." (Roy Marropodi, coach).

The photographs are testament to the team's success in representing

Australia. The boys are now bursting to tell their story.



Liverpool Rangers: Line up for a group photograph prior to their game in the Czech Republic.



QUEENSLAND

XXXX League



QUEENSLAND SOCCER FEDERATION Perry Park, Abbotsford Road, Mayne, Queensland 4006 Phone: (07) 3252-5327 Fax: (07) 3252-1137



Strikers Recover to Advance



BY GLENN DAVIS

Brisbane Strikers had to sweat out a gruelling 22 minutes of Golden Goal extra time before disposing of Queensland Fourx League champions Brisbane Lions 2-nil in the Johnnie Walker Cup on Sunday.

After losing the first leg match 1-nil at Perry Park last week, the Strikers travelled to Lions' Stadium to confront their conquerors minus their injured player-coach Frank Farina and needing to win by

two clear goals to advance to the second round of the Cup.

Farina adopted a "Busby Babes" approach by injecting youth with Queensland Academy players Wayne Knipe and Kasey Wehrman on show for the first time for the national league side.

Neither let the former Socceroo down, particularly Knipe who worked like a terrier at the heels of the Lions defence.

What Knipe lacks in size, he makes up for with skill, flair and a huge workrate.

Knipe had several scoring

opportunities to wrap up the match for the Strikers before skipper Alan Hunter broke the sudden death playoff with a header off a rare fumble from Lions, and man of the match, Rob Farrow.

Perhaps it was the occasion, but Knipe did enough to show he would be lurking in the shadows of the Strikers forwards this year waiting for his opportunity to partner Farina in the big league.

As was the case against Lions the previous week, the Strikers dominated play for



most of the match, but poor finishing let the side down.

Frontman Rod Brown gave the Strikers a 1-nil lead in the 27th minute when he pivoted in the box to drive home a

Troy Cranney cross past Farrow.

Lions earlier had a golden opportunity to score when striker Warren Allen beat defenders Glen Gwynne and Mark Battistin to the ball but his tradesman left foot poked his attempt wide of the upright.

Knipe had two clear chances midway through the second half to extend the Strikers' lead, but the pressure occasion may have got to the youngster.

Knipe's first chance came on 68 minutes when Brown

set him up with only Farrow to beat, but a bad bounce didn't help his cause.

His second attempt eight minutes later was more clear-cut, but a rare piece of poor skill allowed Farrow to pounce at Knipe's feet just when the Lions goalie looked stranded.

The Strikers were again unlucky five minutes before the end of normal time when Lions midfielder Roy Huth cleared an Alan Hunter header off the line while Knipe again watched another of his shots trickle past the upright in

stoppage time.

Farina was pleased with the result, particularly the performances from Knipe, Wehrman and substitute Reece Tollenaere.

"I thought Knipey had a magic game," Farina said.

"He's a handful, but naturally it's going to take him a while to find his feet."

"We had a bucket load of chances, but our finishing let us down."

"Again we dominated the whole game but a couple of times they caught us on the break."

BRISBANE LIONS AND BRISBANE STRIKERS ACTION



Rod Brown: Striking for goal in the first leg.



Warren Allen: From this position he scored the only goal of the first up game.



Steven Starr: Taking on and beating Frank Farina and Andrew Brayshaw of the Strikers.



Reece Tollenaere: Bringing the ball away from the Strikers danger zone.

Northern New South Wales

NNSW Lions v Newcastle Breakers

BY JAI McDERMOTT

A six-goal second half scoring spree ensured Newcastle Breakers will progress to the second round of the Johnnie Walker Cup. They outplayed and demoralised a disappointing Northern New South Wales outfit and will take a 7-1 aggregate lead into the return leg this Wednesday night at Breakers Stadium.

After last week falling to giant killers, Highfields Wolves in the Waratah Cup, the Newcastle side ran riot in only their second competitive hit-out of the season. With new signings Robbie Ironside and Matt Austin starring, coach John Kosmina seems to have solved the problem of depth which hampered last season's campaign.

As early as the third minute there were signs that a long night was in store for the North. A clever build-up

involving Harry James and Troy Halpin paved the way for Jason Bennett to open the scoring with a deft chip over 'keeper Peter Oberhauser.

In truth the first half saw a tense battle evolve, with the Northern Lions pushing hard to prove a point against their National League opponents. Their efforts were rewarded in the 13th minute when Cameron Wallace coolly finished past new Breakers 'keeper Liam Baker. The Breakers defence misjudged a searching through ball and it was flicked on for the Deloraine Eagles attacker to equalise.

In their previous match with the Wolves Newcastle looked short on ideas and inspiration after half-time. In this game they were creative and sharp. In the 56th minute James paved the way for Robbie Ironside to score.

The New Zealander smashed his volley past a bewildered Oberhauser to

round off the brilliant work of the young forward. Despite being replaced just after the hour, James was one of the outstanding performers. His aggressive running and silky skills proved too much for the North's defence and he looks to be shaping up for a big season in the Ericsson Cup.

Despite trailing 2-1 the Lions continued to threaten. Their direct and purposeful raids suggested that they were still well capable of springing an upset.

In the 70th minute however Bennett showed the difference between the two teams with his second goal. Sustained pressure saw Ironside pinch possession on the right. He rolled a seemingly harmless ball into the penalty area, Bennett saw the opportunity and with a lighting turn of speed outpaced his marker. With Oberhauser stranded the former Warringah Dolphin hit a scorching drive to make it 3-1.

If by now the match was over then the final twenty minutes embarrassed the Lions. The Breakers added four more goals including a double to new signing Brett Eldridge and a smashing strike from youth sensation Evis Heath.

More encouraging than the scoreline was the wealth of ideas the Breakers displayed. While the back five were solid and patient the midfield pair of Ironside and Halpin played with poise and creativity. The combination promises much for the new season, with the New Zealanders experience and stability complementing Halpin's attacking skills.

The impressive performances of the new signings must be pleasing for Kosmina, who still has youth stars Zane, Ritchie and Moore to return from overseas.

After the match the Newcastle boss was pleased with his side's performance.

While he praised the efforts of all his players, Kosmina expressed some disappointment with the Lion's outfit. "It's good to get some goals. My boys played very well and I think the new guys can really do a job for us. The combination of Robbie (Ironside) and Halpo (Halpin) is particularly pleasing."

"As I said we played well but they were a little disappointing. We dominated, particularly in the second half where I thought we created a bagful of good chances."

Northern Lions coach Ken Kaiser claimed his side was "still well in it" with twenty minutes left.

"There was nothing between the two sides until half time. We dropped off in the latter stages and I was a little disappointed that some of our experienced guys didn't stand up to the task," he said.



Robbie Ironside: Starred for the Breakers in their demolition of the NNSW XI.

U/14 and U/15 NNSW Squads

The Northern New South Wales Under 14 and 15 squads will be competing at the National Championships to be held at Rochedale in south Brisbane from Sunday September 29 to Friday October 4, 1996.

The titles have a dual role: 1. For states to attempt to win.

2. To identify players for national selections.

This year's Under 15s will be the next intake at the Australian Institute of Sport in Canberra and then form the nucleus for the Under 20 Youth Team. The Under 14s will be the age group for the Under 17 Joeys squad in 1999.



NNSW Under 14 National Titles Squad

Name	Club
Shayne Dodds	Tingira
Ratha Anwar	Cardiff
David Ross	Adamstown
Joel Cummings	Adamstown
Adam Campbell	Adamstown
Mitchell Cook	Adamstown
John Bennis	Adamstown
Robert Ward	Cessnock
Daniel Murace	Manning Mustangs (Taree)
Clint Phillip	Maitland
Josh Taylor	Brunswick Heads
Clint Willoughby	Goonellabah - Lismore
Adam Hughes	Goonellabah - Lismore
Brendan Hogan	Casino
Kyle Jensen	Thistles (Lismore)
Matthew Edmonds	Kyogle
Coach:	John Kaiser

NNSW Under 15 National Titles Squad

Name	Club
Shannon Bowe	Weston
Chad Sullini	Tingira
Alan Bell	Adamstown
Andrew Browning	Adamstown
Tim Wilkinson	Adamstown
Chad Dobson	Tingira
Todd Gava	Lismore
James Kemp	Adamstown
David Channels	Adamstown
Chris Gazzard	Adamstown
Brad Smith	Adamstown
Phillip Metcalfe	Lismore
Mark Pirkie	Manning Mustangs, Taree
Wayne Henry	Adamstown
Chris Tanchevski	Adamstown
Karl Herzog	Tingira
Coach:	Bruce Tracey

Zane moves on and up

Newcastle Breakers striker, Clayton Zane has been selected in the squad for the Coca-Cola Young Socceroos which will tour South America in just over a week.

Zane has recently returned from a seven day tour of Korea with the NSW under 20 squad.

The young Socceroos will play 8 to 10 matches against representative and club sides in Uruguay, Argentina and Chile during the four week tour.

The South American experience is vital to the

Coca-Cola Young Socceroos quest to move through the Oceania round in January and into the World Youth champions in Malaysia next June/July.

19 year old Zane will meet the rest of the team when they gather in Sydney on Saturday September 21 for a pre-tour camp.

Zane is one of the only five players from NSW and is the only one chosen from the Newcastle region.



Clayton Zane: Selected for the Coca-Cola Young Socceroos Squad.

ILLAWARRA PREMIER LEAGUE

BY PHIL MURPHY

Wollongong White Eagles are poised to complete the ISA first division double.

After winning the championship, they booked a grand final spot with a convincing 3-1 win against Kemblawarra at Crehan Park on Saturday.

As usual, the Eagles took a while to get off the ground.

They looked shaky at the back and fell a goal behind in the 25th minute.

It was leading scorer Joe Coelho who turned provider when he played a square ball to Vasco Tasevki and he made no mistake from 10 metres.

Referee Phil Torpy pointed to the penalty spot after Alan Finna had been fouled by Chris Georgievski.

The reliable Goran Trajceski made no mistake and worse was to follow for Kemblawarra.

They were a goal down after 42 minutes after conceding a free kick on the right.

Trajceski floated the ball across and Danny Petkovic managed a back-header which eluded goalkeeper Steve Misevski.

The second half was scrappy but the Eagles managed a third goal just before the end.

Vlade Sbrinovski played a perfect ball to John Cairney and he made no mistake with no Kemblawarra defenders to be seen.

Eagles coach Chris Agno described his team as "fighters" who tend to start slowly but usually deliver the goods.

Kemblawarra coach Jim Makowski said his team looked the part early but faded.

"We will come back and have another crack at the White Eagles in the Grand Final," he said. Before that they have to overcome Picton in the final, Picton having qualified with a 2-0 win against Warrawong.

Meantime, the Eagles appear odds-on to gain promotion to premier league next season.

Their Clunas Oval ground is up to premier league standard but Kemblawarra may not be so lucky.

While they have a strong support, they don't have a good enough home ground to be accepted. However, they are attempting to solve that problem by sharing a suitable ground with another club.

Lysaghts will be without key midfielder Noel Spencer for Sunday's premier league major semi-final against Port Kembla.

Spencer was sent off along with Port Kembla midfielder Jain Rathbone during the mid week league game which Lysaghts won 2-0.

Both players were to appear before the judiciary tomorrow night.

However, Lysaghts were due to play a Bampton Cup semi-final at the weekend so they asked for an earlier hearing that took place on Saturday morning and the suspension means Spencer will also miss Sunday's big game.

Rathbone will appear tomorrow night and is expected to suffer the same fate at Spencer.

That means he would be out on Sunday and if Port Kembla win he won't play again this season.

Fernhill suffered an embarrassing home defeat at the hands of bottom team Westderra in a deferred game under lights.

Going into the game knowing they had to win to have a chance of edging ahead of Bulli into fourth place, they led 2-0.

Westderra shocked even their own supporters by charging back to get level 2-2 by half-time and getting their winner with 20 minutes to go.

As things turned out, Bulli lost their last game 2-0 at home to Dapto but still qualified to meet Wollongong Olympic in Sunday's minor semi-final.

Bulli coach John Frew is looking to experienced striker John Brown to lift the team in the playoffs. Brown has had a frustrating season watching the side from the sideline.

He suffered a serious ankle injury after just six rounds and only recently returned.

Frew believes Brown will be the key to his team's chances to progressing to the Grand Final. Most neutral observers believe it will be a repeat of last year - Lysaghts v Port Kembla.

Wollongong Olympic could be struggling to have a senior goalkeeper for the game against Bulli.

First-choice keeper Mick Atsas has been out for two months and will require a knee reconstruction.

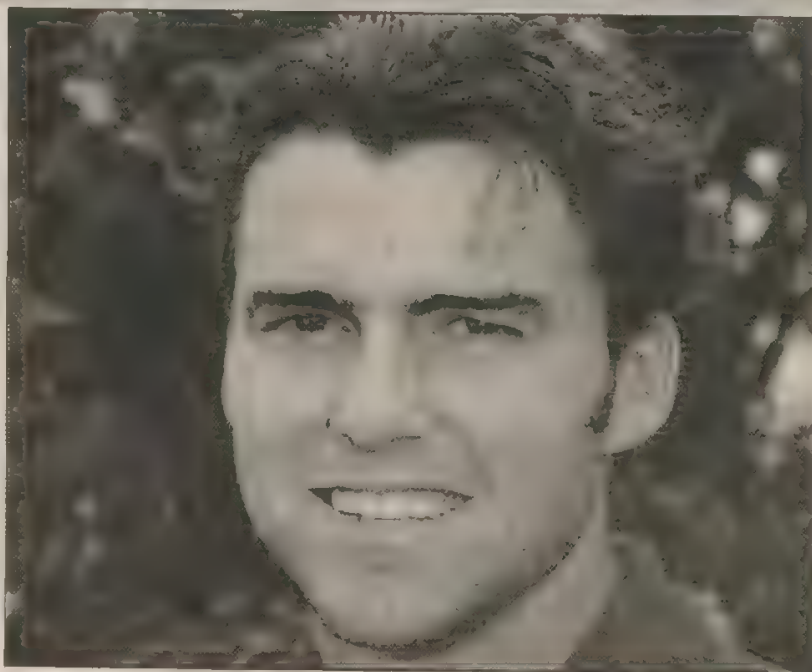
His replacement, Paul Piacentin, who returned to the game this season after a break of some time and is struggling because of lack of first team chances.



NSW SOCCER FEDERATION

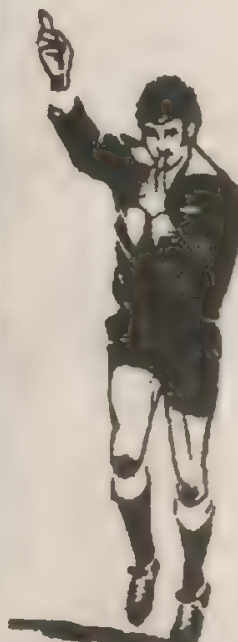
Waratah Cup Semi Final

Wollongong City 0 Parramatta Eagles 1



Anthony Surjan: Put away the only goal of the game for the Eagles which condemned Wollongong to a miserable journey home.

eventually took the trophy and the cash by 2 goals to 1.



FEDERATION DIVISION ONE FINAL SERIES MINOR SEMI FINALS 1ST GRADE

Ryde City 2 v Auburn United 1
Under 21s
Penrith Panthers 3 v Fairfield Bulls 3
(3-5 Penalty Shootout)

Under 18s
Sydney Cosmos 2 v Belmore Hercules 1

MAJOR SEMI FINALS 1ST GRADE

Sydney Cosmos 3 v Belmore Hercules 0

Under 21s
Ryde City 2 v Hills United 1

Under 18s
Ryde City 0 v Hills United 0
(4-5 Penalty Shootout)

WARATAH CUP

SEMI FINALS

Marconi 1 v Sydney United 3
Parramatta Eagles 1 v Wollongong City 0

Minor Semi

Auburn almost stole the show in going down 2-1 to Ryde in Saturday's game at Popondetta Park.

This time they took few risks and were rewarded for their stout defending with an opportunist goal by skilled striker Nihad Ahmed.

A long throw intended for Ryde keeper Andrew Prentice caught the wind and didn't find the intended distance leaving the keeper in two minds.

Ahmed was quick to see the possibilities and waited for Prentice to make a mistake, the ball bouncing too high when it eventually reached him, allowing the Auburn player time to nip behind him and plant the ball into an inviting net.

Ahmed almost got another by his persistence when confusion between Prentice and two of his defenders saw the ball again run loose and provide an opportunity for the ball to be directed at goal by the same player, but a desperate recovery and scrambling clearance off the line by Richard Miranda saved the day for Ryde.

Auburn went about the business in the second half in similar style and almost got another when Ante Krezo lobbed Prentice bringing out a save moments after the resumption.

Krezo was also there for the crumbs after a corner had eluded all of the defence, but sheer weight of numbers kept Krezo from making room to shoot from the cramped space at the far post.

Miranda had effected two vital clearances by this stage and was the star for Ryde in a side which was not strong on individual performance on the day.

Prentice had made some good saves and Ryde were still staring a defeat in the face as nothing was happening for them up front.

Some substitutions were made and these turned things around.

Tim Gledhill made his presence felt immediately with incisive running down the flanks and got the ball in the net after shots from John McKie and one of his own had been blocked on the

Auburn line.

The second of these shots after a good cross from Tim Stratford was handled deliberately by Mustafa Kadayifci who was dismissed.

From the spot kick Richard Miranda drove the ball with conviction past Soner Omac and from that moment Auburn's hopes sank.

Ryde quickly realised that they were back in business and pressed home their advantage.

Gledhill carried the ball in from the left, taking it to the byline and then setting up Jeff Kelly with a low, precision pass.

Kelly did the rest with a well directed low drive past Omac, dashing the hopes of Auburn player-coach Jae Wang who had been directing operations from the midfield.

Gledhill almost got a third for Ryde in the last five minutes when he converged on the goal in company with John McKie, but with the luxury of having only one man to beat the pair, or at least Gledhill, squandered that particular opportunity, firing the ball straight at a defender who scrambled it clear.

The introduction of free scorer Saso Talevski for young Hulusi Orhan did not cause the danger that it might have as Ryde at least at the back were a match for his close ball skills.

LOWER GRADES

The Under 21s match was won on penalties 4-3 by Fairfield whose three goal blitz midway through the second half after being 2-0 down to Penrith almost won them the match in normal time.

A late equaliser from Greg Thomas who had scored Penrith's first goal took the game into a scoreless extra time.

One miss and one save, ironically from Thomas, by Hadi Chedid gave Fairfield, who had scored from their four kicks, the win.

Under 18s went to Sydney Cosmos who shook off the hours of a 7-0 drubbing the previous weekend to beat Belmore 2-1, with a penalty and a last minute winner from David Borg earning them the victory after being a goal down early.

Parramatta Eagles continued their golden season with a close fought 1-0 victory over Ericsson Cup club Wollongong Wolves. This win takes the Eagles into the rich Waratah Cup Final against Sydney United next Sunday.

It wasn't until the 78th minute that Anthony Surjan split the teams.

The Eagles now have a crack at the \$50,000 prize money on offer for taking out the Waratah Cup. They have already won \$20,000 by becoming NSW Super League Premiers. This is added to the \$10,000 they were awarded for winning the Super League second half competition.

This is the second year in succession that a Super League outfit has battled through to the Waratah Cup final. Last year Sydney United had to overcome Canterbury Berries to exert their supremacy. They

First Division Major Semi

Sydney Cosmos, the Premiers, advanced to the 1996 Grand Final with a consummate display of their superiority during the season, when they defeated Belmore 3-0 at Melita Stadium on Sunday.

They were never really troubled by a Belmore side which seemed to lack direction.

The Cosmos boys were always in control and will take some stopping in the big one at The Gabbie in a fortnight.

Even though they were again without their Latvian star Vadim Mikoutsky, who watched from the sidelines, Cosmos dominated from the outset.

Tom McCulloch was a major factor in their huge share of the ball in the middle, with Darren Ioacca able to perform some clever tricks to delight the crowd.

Cosmos were well served by old hand Gerry Gomez, one of three former Parramatta Eagles on the park.

Another of those were Peter Gunning who was never threatened, while Belmore's former Eagle, Marshall Soper had to forego his deep lying role to spearhead the attack when it found itself in need of quick goals.

Cosmos did not open the scoring until the 30th minute, but they had penetrated deep into Belmore territory on many occasions already and the writing was on the wall.

The first goal came as the result of an error in clearing the ball from a corner.

Livewire flankman the Russian, Gary Spivac, floated the ball high into the goalmouth where the short of

stature keeper Iliia Tritsaridis punched the ball straight to Gomez at the near post no more than five yards out. Gomez needed only to direct the ball past the unfortunate goalie to find the top right corner of the net.

Soper made a move a minute later which almost caught Gomez out at the other end, certainly it left Gunning stranded.

Soper used his left foot to hit a high cross from the right touchline aimed at Jim Melissourgos arriving at the near post.

The ball eluded the division's top scorer, but beat the keeper and Gomez who was on his way back to protect the goal, striking the far post instead and rebounding into play where Gomez had time to clear.

This was the only time when Belmore looked like getting close to Cosmos who went from strength to strength.

Belmore made another error in heading the ball out of the goalmouth straight in the path of Ioacca who was able to lift the ball cleverly with his left foot into the roof of the net from 18 yards out, striking the ball on the volley at chest-height.

Belmore defended with more vigour than is their custom after this and were able to keep Cosmos down to two at the break.

They did this by virtue of a goalline clearance from Franco Cosentino at the 45 minute mark when Spivac had been allowed to walk through unchallenged and drive the ball low at the goal from a fine angle on the left.

Paul Richardson brought

down Belmore striker Jimmy Nikas as he made his way towards goal in the 64th minute and was given his marching orders by referee Con Diomis, but the resultant free kick was unproductive.

Gomez got his second of the game in the 65th when connecting beautifully at the far post with a header as Rudi Jerkovic lifted over a well flighted corner from the left.

It was a classic headed goal of the highest order.

Belmore tried hard late to lift themselves out of their lethargy, but both Melissourgos and Nikas were off target in their attempts on goal and Belmore must try against Ryde to try for a rematch.

Cosmos also had Ben Blake sent off, while Belmore lost Jason Lal soon after the restart and played with ten men for around 20 minutes, though this handicap was not really a factor in the loss.

UNDER 21 AND UNDER 18 GAMES SUMMARY

The Under 21 match went to Ryde City 2-1 over Hills United.

David Field scoring with a header to cancel out an own goal he had scored himself to give Hills an early second half lead.

All of the goals came within a fifteen minute period early in the second half and the winner was also provided by an own goal this time from Simon Mak while under pressure from Tim Gledhill.

Hills defeated Ryde in Under 18s on penalties 5-4, after a scoreless but lively match between two exciting young sides.



Gerry Gomez (L) and Grant Lee: Both played role in the march of Sydney Cosmos to the Grand Final.

Waratah Cup Final

Sunday September 22 — 3.00pm

Sydney United Sports Centre



Parramatta Eagles v Sydney United



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Tenerife and
Australia**



Australian and British
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WORLD RESULTS & TABLES

ENGLAND

Premier

Coventry	2	Leeds	1
Derby	1	Sunderland	0
Everton	1	Middlesbrough	2
Manchester United	4	Nottingham Forest	1
Newcastle	2	Blackburn	1
Southampton	0	Tottenham	1
West Ham	0	Wimbledon	2

Division 1

Barnsley	1	Q. Park Rangers	3
Birmingham	3	Stoke	1
Bolton	2	Portsmouth	0
Charlton	1	Reading	0
Crystal Palace	3	Manchester City	1
Norwich	0	Southend	0
Oxford	2	Bradford	0
Port Vale	1	Grimsby	1
Sheffield United	1	Ipswich	3
Swindon	2	Tranmere	1
Huddersfield	3	Oldham	2

Division 2

Brentford	1	Blackpool	1
Bristol Rovers	0	Watford	1
Burnley	2	Wycombe	1
Crewe	3	Wrexham	1
Luton	0	Chesterfield	1
Notts County	1	Millwall	2
Peterborough	2	York	2
Preston	0	Bournemouth	1
Rotherham	2	Bristol City	2
Shrewsbury	1	Bury	1
Stockport	3	Plymouth	1
Walsall	1	Gillingham	0

Division 3

Colchester	1	Hull	1
Darlington	1	Hereford	0
Exeter	2	Brighton	1
Hartlepool	1	Wigan	1
Lincoln	1	Barnet	0
Mansfield	0	Leyton Orient	2
Northampton	1	Cambridge	2
Rochdale	2	Doncaster	1
Scarborough	1	Carlisle	1
Scunthorpe	0	Cardiff	1
Swansea	1	Fulham	2
Torquay	0	Chester	0

SCOTLAND

Premier

Aberdeen	3	Kilmarnock	0
Dundee United	1	Celtic	2
Dunfermline	1	Motherwell	1
Hibernian	1	Raith	0
Rangers	3	Hearts	0

Division 1

Airdrieonians	1	Greenock Morton	2
East Fife	1	St Johnstone	4
Falkirk	2	Clydebank	0
Partick	1	Stirling	1
St Mirren	0	Dundee	1

Division 2

Ayr	2	Clyde	4
Brechin	0	Stranraer	2
Dumbarton	2	Livingston	4
Hamilton	4	Berwick	2
Queen of the South	1	Stenhousemuir	0

Division 3

Alloa	1	Cowdenbeath	1
Arbroath	1	Albion	3
Forfar	0	Ross County	2
Inverness	2	East Stirling	0
Queen's Park	0	Montrose	2

NORTHERN IRELAND

Gold Cup

Group A

Coleraine	0	Bangor	1
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Group B

Ballymena	3	Ards	0
Crusaders	3	Larne	0

Group C

Glentoran	4	Carrick	0
Omagh	0	Cliftonville	1

Group D

Distillery	0	Linfield	0
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ENGLAND TABLES

Premier

Manchester Utd	6	3	3	0	16	6	12
Sheffield Wed	5	4	0	1	8	5	12

Newcastle	6	4	0	2	9	7	12
Middlesbrough	6	3	2	1	14	7	11
Chelsea	5	3	2	0	8	3	11
Liverpool	5	3	2	0	8	4	11
Aston Villa	5	3	1	1	7	4	10
Wimbledon	6	3	0	3	7	6	9
Derby	6	2	3	1	8	8	9
Arsenal	5	2	2	1	9	7	8
Tottenham	6	2	2	2	5	4	8
Leeds	6	2	1	3	6	11	7
Sunderland	6	1	3	2	5	4	6
Nott'ham Forest	6	1	3	2	8	11	6
Leicester	5	1	2	2	3	5	5
Everton	6	1	2	3	5	9	5
West Ham	6	1	2	3	4	10	5
Coventry	6	1	1	4	3	12	4
Southampton	6	0	2	4	5	9	2
Blackburn	6	0	1	5	4	10	1

Division 1

Bolton	7	5	1	1	17	9	16
Barnsley	6	5	0	1	14	6	15
Norwich	7	4	2	1	8	4	14
Tranmere	7	4	1	2	9	6	13
Queens Park Rangers	7	3	2	2	10	9	11
Stoke	7	3	2	2	10	12	11
Wolverhampton	6	3	2	1	7	4	11
Huddersfield	6	3	1	2	10	8	10
Crystal Palace	7	2	4	1	9	6	10
Swindon	7	3	1	3	8	8	10
Portsmouth	7	3	1	3	6	8	10
Ipswich	7	2	3	2	13	11	9
Manchester City	7	3	0	4	8	9	9
Birmingham	5	2	2	1	8	6	8
West Bromwich	5	2	2	1	7	5	8
Sheffield United	5	2	1	2	10	8	7
Oxford	7	2	1	4	9	8	7
Reading	7	2	1	4	9	14	7
Port Vale	7	1	4	2	6	8	7
Charlton	6	2	1	3	5	6	7
Bradford	7	2	0	5	4	10	6
Grimsby	7	1	2	4	8	16	5
Southend	7	1	2	4	7	14	5
Oldham	7	0	2	5	7	14	2

Division 2

Brentford	7	5	2	0	15	6	17
Watford	7	5	0	2	9	7	15
Chesterfield	7	5	0	2	6	4	15
Millwall	7	4	2	1	14	9	14
Bury	7	4	2	1	12	6	14
Crewe	7	4	1	2	10	7	13
Burnley	7	4	0	3	10	9	12
Shrewsbury	7	3	3	1	8	7	12
Plymouth	7	3	2	2	13	12	11
Blackpool	7	3	2	2	6	6	11
Bournemouth	7	3	0	4	8	9	9
Luton	7	3	0	4	7	12	9
York	7	2	2	3	8	9	8
Bristol Rovers	6	2	2	2	5	6	8
Bristol City	7	2	1	4	11	12	7
Peterborough	6	1	4	1	10	10	7
Preston	7	2	1	4	6	8	7
Gillingham	7	2	1	4	6	9	7
Wrexham	5	1	3	1	9	9	6
Walsall	6	1	2	3	6	8	5
Notts County	6	1	2	3	5	7	5
Stockport	7	1	2	4	4	7	5
Wycombe	7	0	4	3	5	8	4
Rotherham	7	0	2	5	6	12	2

Division 3

Fulham	7	6	0	1	11	5	18
Wigan	7	4	2	1	14	8	14
Carlisle	7	4	2	1	9	4	14
Hull	7	3	4	0	7	4	13
Cardiff	7	4	1	2	6	5	13
Darlington	7	3	2	2	13	9	11
Chester	7	3	2	2	11	8	11
Hartlepool	7	3	2	2	9	8	11
Cambridge	7	3	2	2	9	9	11
Torquay	7	3	2	2	8	5	11
Leyton Orient	7	3	2	2	6	3	11
Scarborough	7	2	4	1	10	8	10
Scunthorpe	7	3	1	3	6	9	10
Exeter	7	2	2	3	7	9	8
Lincoln	7	2	2	3	7	10	8
Brighton	7	2	1	4	7	12	7
Colchester	7	1	4	2	6	8	7
Barnet	7	1	4	2	5	4	7
Swansea	7	2	0	5	10	15	6
Northampton	7	1	3	3	8	8	6

Rochdale	7	1	3	3	5	7	6
Doncaster	7	1	2	4	6	9	5
Mansfield	7	0	4	3	2	8	4
Hereford	7	1	1	5	2	9	4

SCOTLAND TABLES

Premier

Rangers	5	5	0	0	11	2	15
Celtic	5	4	1	0	16	5	13
Aberdeen	5	3	2	0	15	5	11
Hibernian	5	2	1	2	3	7	7
Motherwell	5	1	3	1	7	5	6
Dunfermline	5	1	3	1	7	9	6
Hearts	5	2	0	3	5	11	6
Kilmarnock	5	1	1	3	7	12	4
Dundee United	5	0	1	4	2	6	1
Raith	5	0	0	5	2	13	0

Division 1

St Johnstone	4	3	1	0	9	1	10
Greenock Morton	5	3	1	1	7	3	10
Dundee	5	2	2	1	4	3	8
Airdrieonians	4	2	1	1	3	2	7
Falkirk	5	2	1	2	3	2	7
Clydebank	5	2	1	2	4	7	7
Stirling	5	1	2	2	3	4	5
St Mirren	5	1	1	3	6	7	4
Partick	5	0	3	2	2	5	3
East Fife	5	0	3	2	2	9	3

Division 2

Livingston	5	5	0	0	12	5	15
Hamilton	5	3	1	1	10	4	10
Queen of the South	5	3	1	1	8	6	10
Ayr	5	2	2	1	12	7	8
Stranraer	5	2	1	2	5	6	7
Clyde	5	2	0	3	6	8	6
Dumbarton	5	1	2	2	6	8	5
Stenhousemuir	5	1	1	3	7	4	4
Brechin	5	0	3	2	3	6	3
Berwick	5	0	1	4	5	20	1

Division 3

Albion	5	4	1	0	8	1	13
Alloa	5	2	2	1	6	5	8
Cowdenbeath	5	2	2	1	6	5	8
Montrose	5	2	1	2	5	4	7
Inverness	5	2	1	2	5	6	7
Forfar	5	2	0	3	8	8	6
Arbroath	5	1	3	1	5	5	6
East Stirling	5	1	2	2	5	7	5
Queen's Park	5	1	2	2	7	11	5
Ross County	5	1	0	4	6	9	3

ITALY

Serie A—Round 1

Bologna	1	Lazio	0
Cagliari	2	Atalanta	0
Florentina	2	Vicenza	4
Milan	4	Verona	1
Parma	3	Napoli	0
Perugia	1	Sampdoria	0
Reggiana	1	Juventus	1
Roma	3	Piacenza	1
Udinese	0	Inter Milan	1

Serie B

Bari	2	Brescia	0
Cast. Sang	1	Cosenza	0
Chievo	1	Cremonese	0
Genoa	1	Lucchese	1
Padova	1	Empoli	0
Palermo	0	Pescara	0
Ravenna	2	Venezia	1
Reggina	1	Lecce	2
Salermitana	2	Foggia	0

JAPAN J-LEAGUE

JEF United Ichihara	0	Shimizu S-Pulse	1
Kashima Antlers	2	Yokohama Flügels	0
Nagoya Grampus Eight	3	Kyoto Purple Sanga	0
Gamba Osaka	2	Cerezo Osaka	0
Verdy Kawasaki	5	Sanfrecce Hiroshima	0
Urawa Red Diamonds	3	Bellmare Hiratsuka	0
Yokohama Marinos	0	Avispa Fukuoka	0
Marinos won penalty shoot-out	3-1		
Jubilo Iwata	2	Kashiwa Reysol	0



Davor Suker

Croatian Corner

By John Viskovich

Croatian Soccer History

Dinamo Zagreb reached the Semi Final of the first European Cup Winners Cup held in 1961. The blue boys however lost 4-2 on aggregate to eventual champion Italy's Fiorentina who later beat Glasgow Rangers 4-1 on aggregate.

Dinamo Zagreb reached the Quarter Finals of the first UEFA Cup (Fair City Cup) in 1958. The boys from Zagreb lost to Birmingham City who cheated a little by using players from three different clubs from the same city. The irony was eventual champion was London Select XI who also had players from a few different clubs. In the end Dinamo virtually had no chance of beating the best of what all of England had on show.

Hajduk Split was founded in 1911 by Croatians who went to Prague University.

It's also no surprise that Hajduk's old logo which featured the red star is identical to the one that Sparta Prague still wear today.

Croatian club, Rijeka get its all white strip from Spanish giants Real Madrid. The logos also match and both feature a purple line with gold surround.

Hajduk translates to "Bandit" in English.

In brief:
Mario Stanic has left Belgium Champions Club Brugge and has joined Italian Super Cup Champions Fiorentina for 15 million. The deal was completed this week and "Super Mario" will join other Croats in Italy namely Boban (Milan), Boksic (Juventus), Ban (Pescara), Rapaic (Perugia) and Karic (Torino).

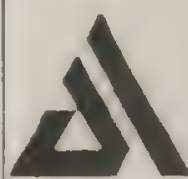
Tomislav Erecg has completed his move from Swiss club Grasshoppers to Bundesliga club, VfB Stuttgart. He will join another Croat, Zvonimir Soldo who also joined the club from Croatia Zagreb. The club look strong on paper and also have start Bulgarian Euro 96 midfielder Balakov and German Euro 96 striker Bobic.

Australian midfielder Josip Skoko of Hajduk Split managed 2 goals in a 2:1 win over Osijek. Skoko was also named Man of the Match and has now scored 3 goals in the Croatian A League. In comparison, fellow Australian Marko Viduka of Croatia Zagreb has scored 2 goals and has also hit good form.

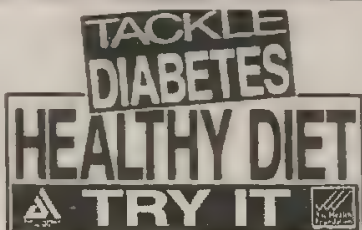
Socceroo Steve Horvat of Hajduk Split has become a mystery. He hasn't played for Hajduk in the last 6 matches including the matches against Torpedo. The Croatian papers haven't mentioned him on the injured list of players. The only reasonable explanation is that Coach Buljan is preferring to play Macedonian Sedloski at the back and not him. Let's hope if this is true that he soon hits form and regains his place in the first 11.

Tune into Cro2000 with legendary announcer Ante Grabovac, for all the latest in Croatian Sports. The program is broadcast in English Wednesdays at 8.45pm on Sydney's 98.5FM and shouldn't be missed.

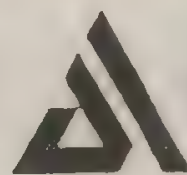




DIABETES
AUSTRALIA
VICTORIA



TACKLE DIABETES



Premier League Grand Final

BACK TO BACK MAGIC

BY DWYGH TUFFNELL

Altona Magic made it back to back championships with a win on penalties after a superb 3-3 draw with Heidelberg United at Lakeside Stadium on Sunday.

The 5-3 win on spot kicks gave the Magic some revenge after going down the same way in the Second Semi Final two weeks ago.

Brian MacNicol, after winning the Jimmy Rooney Medal for best on ground, took the first penalty for the Bergers only for Darren McGrath to push the ball to safety.

It was a disappointing end for MacNicol and the rest of the team who were the best side on the day but a combination of wasted chances and some brilliant saves from McGrath denied Heidelberg more than the three goals they scored.

Whilst MacNicol was the hero turned villain, his team mate Dean Fak was the culprit for an own goal before netting Heidelberg's equaliser with just two minutes remaining in extra time.

Altona striker, Sash Becvinovski, enhanced his reputation as a big game player with two goals.

It was Becvinovski who gave the Magic the lead in the 19th minute after Heidelberg had looked good early.

Heidelberg then piled on the pressure with MacNicol, Con Boutsianis, Bobby

Despotovski and Leigh Tsoumerkas all being denied by McGrath before the inevitable equaliser arrived eight minutes from half time.

The out of luck Despotovski had a shot which deflected onto the post but Andy Vlahos was on hand to steer the ball in.

Fak then had the misfortune to put through his own goal when he lobbed Glenn Clarke from Nick Georgopoulos' pass to Henry Velkovski.

Despotovski, flown back from Perth especially for the game, finally got on the scoresheet after a terrific Heidelberg move.

Steve Iosifidis beat Robert Runje before slipping the ball back to the ace striker to beat McGrath from close range.

McGrath performed more heroics in the dying stages to deny Despotovski but had defender Simon Micevski to thank when he cleared off the line from yet another Despotovski attempt.

Becvinovski had Altona in front again in the 98th minute from the penalty spot after Tsoumerkas had bundled over Zoran Petrevski in the area.

Fak then made amends in the 108th minute when Gary Hasler's cross was dropped in the collision between McGrath and Despotovski.

MacNicol was left with the humiliation of missing the crucial penalty, an injustice considering his superb display and that he went into the game with a thigh injury.

Heidelberg coach Dusan Brnovic said simply "that is



soccer" after witnessing his sides defeat.

"The game was very dramatic, we had six goals, many more chances, especially Heidelberg.

"I think we were the better team but defensive mistakes and three misses and also three unnecessary goals conceded.

"It was cruel to lose on penalties but they are the rules we played the better soccer but still lost."

Gary Cole, facing a new haircut after a promise that he would shave it bald had Velkovski scored the winning goal, even if it was from the penalty spot, said that he felt for MacNicol in particular but

disputed whether or not that Heidelberg were the better side.

"I don't know if they were the better team out there, we won but they are an excellent side.

"The bad thing about today is that someone like Brian MacNicol has to go through the suffering of losing the game.

"Today's game was a terrific example of two of Victoria's top Premier League clubs, they put on a spectacle that was superb," Cole ended.

Magic: McGrath, Atanasovski, Tasevski, Runje, Micevski, Markovski, Petrevski, Georgopoulos, Becvinovski, Velkovski,

Petrov.
United: Clarke, Tsoumerkas, Scott, Fak, Karapatsos, MacNicol, Iosifidis, Svigos, Boutsianis (Hasler 100m), Despotovski, Vlahos.

Scorers:
Magic - Becvinovski 19m, 98m (pen) Fak 59m
United: Vlahos 37m Despotovski 79m Fak 108m

Penalty Scorers:
Magic: Becvinovski, Georgopoulos, Markovski, Atanasovski, Velkovski
United: Svigos, Scott, Tsoumerkas

Yellow Cards:
Magic: Georgopoulos 16m, Markovski 41m, Petrov 94m
United: Scott 28m, Despotovski 30m, Svigos 66m, Fak 75m

Red Cards: None
Crowd: 5,432

Referee: Cain Naumcevski

Jimmy Rooney Medal Winner: Brian MacNicol (Heidelberg)

FINAL RESULT
Altona Magic 3 (Becvinovski 19m, 98m (pen) Fak 59m)

Heidelberg United 3 (Vlahos 37m Despotovski 79m Fak 108m)

Altona win 5-3 on penalties.



Gary Cole: Appointed early this season and successfully guided Altona Magic to Grand Final victory.

Winners and Losers



We proved it this time, didn't we? bellowed a voice in the Altona Magic change rooms deep in the bowels of the Bob Jane Stadium. That probably summed up the mood of the place following the club's stunning second consecutive grand final success.

Good teams win titles and

great teams win back-to-back, and magical midfielder Henry Velkovski couldn't speak well enough about his title-winning team mates.

"As the game rolled on we probably deserved to win it and had we not made those defensive errors it should have been our game" said Velkovski.

And will he be shaving

coach Gary Cole's head?

"We arranged that if I did score the winning goal in the Grand Final he'll shave his head but it was the winning penalty so we'll only shave half of it."

Cole has promised to keep his end of the bargain. "He scored the winner, even if it was in a penalty shoot-out, so tomorrow off it comes."

HEIDELBERG UNITED



The Heidelberg camp was still reeling from Grand Final defeat and the refusal to accept Sunday's loss was clear.

Coach Dusan Brnovic was struggling to accept the nature of the defeat in the most important game of the season.

"We had many chances today but still lose on penalties. But that is soccer. "I think we were the better

side but defensive errors with three unnecessary goals conceded and three good chances and ... we lose the final.

"But my players played well and did not deserve to lose like that.

"Macca (Brian MacNicol) was easily the best player on the ground and he had a problem with his thigh. For me, he was a hero today."

NEXT WEEKS FIXTURES

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

DOCKERTY CUP — 3RD ROUND

GROUP 1:
MOORABBIN CITY V STH MELBOURNE (KICK OFF 6.30PM)

altona magic v bulleen lions (kick off 8.30PM)
(Double Header at Paisley Park, North Altona)

GROUP 2:
BANTUL CITY V CROFTON CITY (KICK OFF 6.30PM)
NORTHCOTE CITY V BOX HILL INTER (KICK OFF 8.30PM)
(DOUBLE HEADER AT WEMBLEY PARK, BOX HILL)

GROUP 3:
KINGSTON CITY V SPRINGVALE CITY VALES (KICK OFF 6.30PM)

BENTLEIGH GREENS V GIPPSLAND FALCONS (KICK OFF 8.30PM)

DOUBLE HEADER AT BOSS RESERVE, NOBLE PARK

GROUP 4:
BELL PARK V HEIDELBERG UNITED (KICK OFF 6.30PM)

MELBOURNE KNIGHTS V THOMASTOWN ZEBRAS (KICK OFF 8.30PM)

(DOUBLE HEADER AT KNIGHTS PARK, NORTH SUNSHINE)

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 22ND
DOCKERTY CUP QUARTER FINALS
(VENUES TO BE ADVISED)

PREMIER LEAGUE GRAND FINAL

MAGICAL FINALE TO SEASON '96

BY GREG BLAKE

In September last year a largely underrated Altona Magic team went to Olympic Park as a Grand Final outsider and returned to their Paisley Park home later that same day with club's first Victorian championship.

Behind twice in the biggest game of the season, the then Ian Dobson-coached team produced a thrilling back from the dead 3-2 extra time victory over Bulleen in what was rated Victoria's best-ever Grand Final decider.

For most of this season the feeling was that Magic's 1995 effort was an heroic one-off, rather than a harbinger of things to come for this once maligned under-achiever.

Even in the days leading up to last Sunday's 1996 Premier League Grand Final title-decider few were prepared to concede a chance to the Paisley Parkers, especially against a super-charged Heidelberg United team which had recorded three wins in

three starts over the Magic already this season, the last in a penalty decider in the major semi final just a couple of weeks back.

And no-one even dared hope that the 1996 showdown could match last year's decider, let alone surpass it in terms of sheer dramatic theatre.

We were wrong on all accounts.

Last Sunday at Bob Jane Stadium Altona Magic settled any arguments about this team's place in local history by becoming the first club since Croydon City a full decade ago to repeat as Victorian champions and only the fourth side to do so in the past 30 years. Altona is also the first-ever team to have successfully defended the title in a finals series decider since the concept was adopted by the Premier League in 1992.

If new coach Gary Cole and this Magic team deserve to be rated alongside the best the Premier League has seen in the past three decades, the



Brian MacNicol: Heidelberg's dynamic grafter won Jim Rooney Medal but missed vital penalty.

1996 Grand Final was one for the highlight reels. The first grand final at this ground will also go down in the history books as the best of all time at this level and yet another nail in the coffin for the traditionalists who continue to advocate first past the post.

Last Sunday Bob Jane Stadium came alive under the threatening overcast skies of Melbourne, the new stadium humming with the throb of in excess 5,000 passionate fans.

Few left the ground until the final curtain drew on a nerve-shattering finish, a tense 5-3 penalties win by Magic over a gallant Heidelberg team which refused to give in.

In sharp contrast to last season the Magic this time did as best it could to let the game slip away, leading three times and being pegged back on each occasion.

Cole's team saw an early lead pegged back eight minutes from half time, a second half lead reeled in with less than ten minutes left in regulation time and an extra

time advantage pulled back by the gallant Bergers with mere seconds remaining.

It was exhausting for the weary players and harrowing for the fans, most of whom stayed on to cheer both teams off the ground in the evening twilight.

It wasn't Brian MacNicol's day, the Heidelberg wing wizard playing his heart out to win the Jim Rooney Medal for best on ground but ending the day with a shattered heart after missing the critical penalty in the shoot-out.

However, it was Altona Magic's day of victory most glorious made even more stunning when one considers that five players and the senior coach had changed from the successful grand final starting line-ups between last year and this.

Games like this don't come around too often and team's like the current Altona Magic outfit are special.

Few who saw Sunday's game are likely to forget either.

PLAYER RATINGS

ALTONA MAGIC


BY JOHN HIGAS

Darren McGrath:

Pulled off some sensational saves to deny Con Boutsianis and Leigh Tsoumerkias which kept Altona in the game. Was at fault with the third goal when he fumbled a Gary Hasler cross. (8)

Zdravko Atanasovski: Supplied the corner which resulted in the opening goal of the game. Was fouled on many occasions which disrupted his performance. Very skillful when attacking. (7)

Marjan Tasevski: Superb in defence, produced some excellent crosses when overlapping on the left flank. Consistent performance. (7)

Robert Runje: Cool as ever in defence, cleared

everything that came his way. Only one blemish in an outstanding effort, when he was beaten by Steve Isifidis which resulted in Heidelberg's second goal. (7)

Simon Micevski: Involved in the first goal for the Magic when he flicked on the ball to Sash Becvinovski. Rugged defender who was hardly troubled. (7)

Tom Markovski: Altona's best player did not put a foot wrong all day. Markovski could have even scored when his diving header slightly missing the target. (8)

Zoran Petrevski: Petrevski was well held by Dean Fak. Did not have an impact on proceedings until he was penalty in extra time which resulted in Altona's third goal. (6)

Nick Georgopoulos:

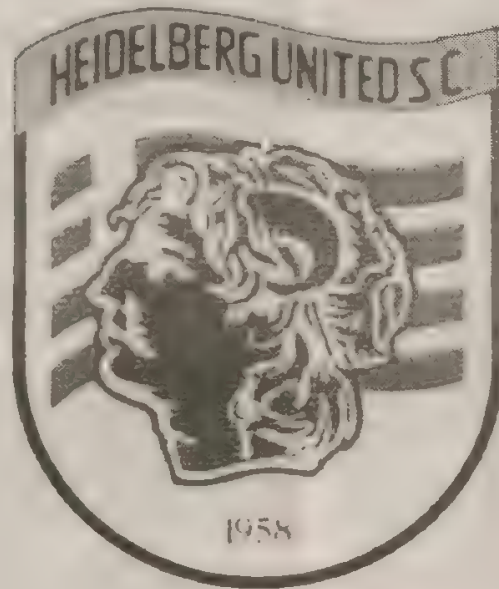
Caused problems for the Heidelberg defence with his pace and skill. Georgopoulos laid the ball off well to his team mates in attacking raids. (7)

Sash Becvinovski: Altona's hero scoring two goals and converting a penalty in the dramatic shootout. Just like Georgopoulos his pace worried the Bergers. (8)

Henry Velkovski: Powerful midfielder did not let anyone stand in his way. Distribution of the ball was a delight to watch. Also scored that all important final spotkick in the shootout. (7)

George Petrov: Solid performance by Petrov. Beaten in the end by the youthful Steve Isifidis in midfield. (6)

HEIDELBERG UNITED



Glenn Clarke: Strong in the air, made some excellent saves. Beaten in the penalty shootout five times. (7)

Leigh Tsoumerkias: One of Heidelberg's better players, beat his opponents in the air. Came forward in set pieces, was denied by McGrath late in the game with a sensational header. (8)

Alan Scott: Strong figure on the field, was well in command whenever in possession of the ball. Made marauding run forward beating two players and sending in a cross to Bobby Despotovski. (8)

Dean Fak: Fak had mixed day, scoring an own goal and popping up for equalising third goal. Had the better of Petrevski for most of

the game. (7)

Tom Karapatsos: Made a return to the senior tea after a long lay off with injury. Took time to settle as passes were misdirected. (6)

Brian MacNicol: Winner of the Jimmy Rooney Medal for the best player on the ground. His distribution and running at opponents was a delight to see. Also played with a thigh injury. (9)

Steve Isifidis: Beat George Petrov in the midfield. Strong running all over the park was a difficult player to contain. (8)

George Svigos: Similar game to Isifidis, even had time to help his defence. Distribution was wonderful as it caused problems for the Magic. (7)

Con Boutsianis: A

disappointing display from Boutsianis. Had an easy opportunity to score from two yards out early in the game. Replaced by Gary Hasler late in the game. (5)

Bobby Despotovski: Flown in from Perth to play in the Grand Final. Was well held by Tom Markovski. When unmarked looked very dangerous in front of goal, scored Heidelberg's second goal. (7)

Andy Vlahos: The smallest player on the field, scored the first goal for the Bergers. Caused the Altona defence problems with his pace and size. (7)

Gary Hasler: Replaced Boutsianis late in the game. Crossed the ball to Fak which resulted in the sixth goal of the game. (3)



Don't forget to pick up a copy of next week's ABSW (Sept 24) for a full double page pictorial cover of Victoria's stunning 1996 Grand Final. Ace photographer Joe Sabljak has captured all of the drama of the day for next week's edition.





Victorian Ladders



STATE LEAGUE — DIVISION 1

FIRSTS									
P	W	D	L	F	A	PT			
Sp White Eagles	24	16	4	4	51	24	52		
Richmond	25	14	9	2	52	28	51		
Preston Lions	25	14	8	3	41	17	50		
West Suburbs	25	11	7	7	32	25	40		
Kings City	25	9	12	4	34	28	39		
Lalor Utd	25	10	7	8	57	42	37		
Westgate	25	10	6	9	45	45	36		
Moorabbin City	25	9	7	9	35	32	34		
C'don City Dons	25	8	7	10	43	34	31		
Don'ster Rovers	25	7	10	8	32	35	31		
Werribee City	25	8	6	11	34	29	30		
Broadmeadows	25	6	2	17	25	64	20		
Northcote City	24	4	7	13	22	40	19		
Glen Eira City	25	1	2	22	15	73	5		

RESERVES

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Preston	22	14	1	3	59	20	52
Richmond	22	16	3	3	51	24	51
Moorabbin City	24	13	7	4	58	28	46
Werribee City	25	16	6	6	46	38	45
Don'ster Rovers	25	13	3	9	49	34	42
Kings City	25	12	3	10	60	38	39
Croydon City	24	12	3	9	49	36	39
Lalor United	25	12	2	11	56	40	38
Sp White Eagles	23	8	3	12	48	48	27
Glen Eira City	25	3	4	14	35	62	25
West Suburbs	25	6	5	14	38	59	23
Northcote City	22	6	3	13	21	63	21
Westgate	25	6	1	18	29	62	19
Broadmeadows	25	2	6	17	22	64	12

STATE LEAGUE — DIVISION 2

FIRSTS									
P	W	D	L	F	A	PT			
Westvale	25	22	1	2	94	24	64		
Sth Dandenong	25	16	4	5	60	29	52		
Altona East	25	15	5	5	50	32	50		
Altona City	25	10	6	9	38	24	36		
Waverley City	25	9	7	9	58	59	34		
Ess Brun Royals	25	9	7	9	24	27	34		
Frankston Pines	25	7	10	8	31	35	31		
East Richmond	25	8	6	11	42	45	30		
Knox City	25	7	9	9	39	48	30		
Oakland	25	6	9	10	36	56	27		
Regent Bulla	25	5	11	9	28	41	26		
Bell Park	25	6	6	13	30	43	24		
Mooroolbark	24	4	6	15	30	55	18		
Nunawading City	25	3	9	13	25	67	18		

RESERVES

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Frankston Pines	25	18	3	4	62	24	57
Altona City	25	16	3	6	59	31	51
Waverley City	25	16	2	7	27	40	50
Westvale	25	15	5	5	64	40	47
Ess Brun Royals	25	12	4	9	57	30	40
East Richmond	25	10	8	7	46	33	38
Knox City	25	8	8	9	54	46	32
Mooroolbark	25	7	10	8	37	47	31
Oakland	25	9	3	13	60	51	30
Altona East	24	8	6	10	42	46	30
Regent Bulla	24	9	1	14	46	73	28
Sth Dandenong	25	6	4	15	39	65	22
Nuna City	25	5	4	16	47	65	19
Bell Park	25	2	5	18	24	123	11

STATE LEAGUE — DIVISION 3

FIRSTS									
P	W	D	L	F	A	PT			
Frankston	25	19	2	4	76	29	59		
Ringwood City	25	16	5	4	37	24	53		
Sth Springvale	25	14	6	5	55	28	48		
Dia Valley Utd	25	13	4	8	38	34	43		
Cranbourne	25	12	5	8	41	31	41		
Fitzroy City	25	11	5	9	45	35	38		
Pascoe Vale	25	9	7	9	35	37	34		
Sth Caulfield	25	10	5	10	42	42	32		
Melb City	25	7	7	11	37	43	28		
Sth Werribee	25	6	8	11	41	46	26		
Keilor Eagles	25	5	9	11	21	34	24		
Chelsea	25	6	6	13	39	80	24		
Banyule	25	5	8	12	32	54	23		

Clifton Hill	25	1	5	19	17	69	8
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RESERVES

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Ringwood City	24	21	1	2	95	38	64
Cranbourne	25	19	4	2	101	22	61
Keilor Eagles	24	16	5	3	62	29	53
Fitzroy City	24	12	5	7	69	52	40
Sth Springvale	24	11	7	6	53	26	40
Dia Valley Utd	24	12	4	8	60	41	40
Frankston	24	11	5	8	85	42	38
Melb City	24	10	6	8	50	44	36
Pascoe Vale	24	8	3	13	45	57	27
Sth Werribee	25	7	4	14	49	88	25
Banyule	25	6	3	16	49	83	23
Sth Caulfield	25	5	7	13	30	49	19
Chelsea	25	4	2	19	32	91	14
Clifton Hill	25	0	2	23	12	145	2

STATE LEAGUE — DIVISION 4

FIRSTS									
P	W	D	L	F	A	PT			
Yarraville	25	16	6	3	56	28	54		
Geelong	25	15	7	3	59	30	52		
Nth Coburg Utd	25	16	3	6	69	37	51		
Sun Heights	25	15	3	7	54	25	48		
Stonnington	25	14	5	6	53	32	47		
Langwarring	25	9	6	10	49	40	33		
Lalor	25	9	6	10	43	39	33		
Seaford Utd	25	9	5	11	37	44	32		
Sunbury Utd	25	8	7	10	33	37	31		
Monbulk	25	7	9	9	32	33	30		
Moreland City	25	8	4	13	39	46	28		
Corio	25	6	5	14	26	56	23		
Williamstown	25	4	6	15	27	58	18		
San'ham City	25	2	2	21	20	92	8		

RESERVES

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Langwarrin	24	19	3	2	82	23	60
Sun Heights	25	16	6	3	73	17	54
Sunbury Utd	25	15	4	6	41	25	49
Lalor	24	14	6	4	59	33	48
Seaford Utd	25	10	8	7	59	41	38
Yarraville	23	10	7	6	58	37	37
Stonnington	24	11	4	9	48	37	37
Nth Coburg Utd	25	10	4	11	62	72	34
Moreland City	25	9	3	13	43	45	30
Geelong	25	5	7	13	32	73	22
Monbulk	24	5	6	13	25	48	21
Corio	25	4	7	14	27	87	19
San'tham City	25	5	3	19	32	86	16
Williamstown	25	3	6	16	30	77	15

PROV LEAGUE DIVISION ONE

FIRSTS									
P	W	D	L	F	A	PT			
Geel Rangers	24	18	3	3	66	21	57		
Keysborough	22	17	1	4	55	15	52		
Melton	24	11	8	5	28	23	41		
Knox Park	23	12	3	8	50	33	39		
Sth Wantirna	21	12	2	7	46	29	38		
Sp'vale Condors	22	10	8	4	39	31	35		
Nth Sunshine	22	9	3	10	34	34	30		
Mitcham Utd	20	9	1	10	34	34	28		
Doveton	23	2	6	10	26	33	27		
Old Scotch-Haw	23	2	4	12	33	34	25		
Ballarat	23	6	4	13	22	44	22		
Mornington	23	6	3	14	20	58	21		
Glenroy	23	5	5	13	32	46	20		
Heidelberg City	23	3	1	19	17	29	10		

RESERVES

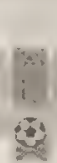
	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Knox Park	21	12	5	4	53	24	4
Melton	23	12	4	7	46	27	4
Mitcham Utd	18	12	3	3	52	28	3
Glenroy	22	10	5	7	52	42	3
Nth Sunshine	22	10	5	7	34	35	3
Mornington	23	10	4	9	36	46	3
Ballarat	19	10	2	7	37	34	3
Sth Wantirna	23	7	8	8	36	35	2
Geel Rangers	24	8	5	11	47	56	2
Sp'vale Condors	21	8	5	8	45	38	2
Old Scotch-Haw	24	5	9	10	46	50	2
Keysborough	23	6	5	12	41	55	2

Heidelberg City	24	3	11	10	25	54	20
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Doveton	23	4	5	14	29	60	17
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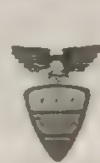
PROV LEAGUE DIVISION TWO

FIRSTS							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Lyndale United	23	15	5	3	66	26	50
Croxton	21	15	3	3	59	23	48
Endeavour Utd	21	14	5	2	89	21	47
Sth Yarra	22	12	2	8	49	43	38
Brunswick City	23	11	3	9	42	34	36
Brandon Park	23	11	2	10	39	43	35
Hoppers Cross.	24	10	5	9	41	57	35
Bracside Utd	24	9	6	9	39	39	33
Meadow Park	24	9	6	9	37	39	33
Berwick City	22	7	4	11	37	38	25
Hampf Pk Utd	20	5	6	9	29	45	21
Dandenong	21	5	4	12	27	47	19
N. Glenr	24	4	6	14	28	70	18
E Nun Eagles	24	2	1	21	16	68	7



SOUTH AMERICA

— COMPILED BY MARIO ETCHART —



9TH EDITION OF THE S.A. SUPERCUP

Seventeen clubs will participate in the 9th edition of the South American Supercup, a competition reserved for past and present winners of the Libertadores Cup, and the second major tournament at club level in the continent.

The competition will kick off with the first qualifying rounds on September 25, finishing on November 25.

Seven teams from Argentina, five from Brazil, two from Uruguay, one from Chile, one from Paraguay, and one from Colombia will participate in this year's Championship.

The representatives of Argentina are: Boca Juniors, Argentinos Juniors — recently demoted to second division — Racing Club,

Estudiantes de La Plata, Independiente, current champions Velez Sarsfield, and River Plate.

Brazilian teams are: Cruzeiro, Flamengo, Gremio, Sao Paulo and Santos.

From Uruguay comes title holder Penarol and the current competition leader, Nacional.

The other three teams are: Colo Colo of Chile, Atletico Nacional of Colombia and

Olimpia of Paraguay.

Due to the uneven number of participants invitations have been issued to additional teams had to be included (Boca Juniors, Racing and Argentinos Juniors) of which one will advance to the quarter finals.

The first qualifying round on home and away basis features the following fixtures:

FIXTURES

Santos (Brazil)	v	Penarol (Uruguay)
Atletico Nacional (Col)	v	River Plate (Argentina)
Olimpia (Paraguay)	v	Sao Paulo (Brazil)
Gremio (Brazil)	v	Velez Sarsfield (Argentina)
Flamengo (Brazil)	v	Independiente (Argentina)
Colo Colo (Chile)	v	Estudiantes de La Plata (Argentina)
Cruzeiro (Brazil)	v	Nacional (Uruguay)

BATISTUTA ESTABLISHES NEW RECORD

Fiorentina's Argentine star striker Gabriel Batistuta established a new record playing for the Argentine national team. He has now scored 35 goals, one more than Maradona.

Maradona scored the 34 goals over a period of 17 years (1977-1994); the first one in his debut against Hungary at Boca Juniors stadium "La Bombonera". And the last one, against Nigeria at USA '94.

Batistuta has netted his 35 goals in only five years, from 1991 till 1996. The current Argentine national coach, Daniel Passarella, put away 24 goals in eight years (1978-1986). Former star Luis

Artme also scored 24 goals playing for Argentina, in six years, from 1961 to 1967.



HIGHEST ARGENTINE NATIONAL TEAM SCORERS:

Player	Goals
Gabriel Batistuta (1991-1996)	35
Diego Maradona (1977-1994)	34
Luis Artme (1961-1967)	24
Daniel Passarella (1978-1986)	24
Leopoldo Luque (1975-1981)	21
H. Masantonio (1935-42)	21
Jose Sanfilippo (1955-1962)	21
Mario Kempes (1974-1982)	20
Rene Pontoni (1942-1947)	19
Jose Manuel Moreno (1936-1950)	19
Orestes Omar Corbatta (1956-1962)	18
Norberto Mendez (1945-1953)	18
Rinaldo Martino (1942-1945)	17
Miguel Brindisi (1969-1974)	17
D. Tarascone (1922-1929)	17
Angel Labruna (1942-1958)	17
Manuel Seoane (1921-1928)	15
Claudio Caniggia (1987-1996)	15

RIVER PLATE THE GREATEST!

River Plate, the current Libertadores Cup champion, is the club who have won more Argentine national championships, the one who have won more matches, the one who have lost less games, and the one who have scored more goals in the history of the "tango" country.

River Plate was the cradle of such great world soccer players as Alfredo Di Stefano, Jose Manuel Moreno, Enrique Omar Sivori, Adolfo Pedernera, Amadeo Raul Carrizo, Daniel Passarella (right) and more recently Ariel Ortega, Hernan Crespo and Matias Almeyda. Or that it has been the club where stars like Bernabe Ferreira, Walter Gomez, Ubaldo Fillol,



Norberto Alonso, Ramon Diaz and Enzo Francescoli, among others, achieved fame and glory.

Founded on May 1901, in

the Buenos Aires suburb of "La Boca", River Plate won 24 championships in a country where football is religion. An achievement difficult to

1996 CONMEBOL CUP

This year's Conmebol Cup will include some of the most prestigious clubs in South America; among them Palmeiras and Vasco da Gama of Brazil, Alianza Lima from Peru and Colombians Independiente Santa Fe and the fourth times Libertadores Cup runners-up, America.

The teams already qualified for the tournament are: Palmeiras, Bragantino, Vasco da Gama and Fluminense, all from Brazil,

River Plate and Porongos from Uruguay, America, Tolima and Independiente Santa Fe all from Colombia, Alianza Lima of Peru and Guarani of Paraguay.

The other three participants will emerge from the following qualifying matches:

Tachira (Venezuela) v Deportivo Chacao (Venezuela) 1 Emelec (Ecuador) v Liga Universitaria, Quito (Ecuador) 2 Bolivar (Bolivia) v Oriente Petrolero (Bolivia) 3.

The representatives of Argentina and Chile haven't qualified yet. First round games:

FIXTURES

Palmeiras (Brazil)	v	Bragantino (Brazil)
Tolima (Colombia)	v	Winner (1) (Venezuela)
Independiente (Col)	v	Vasco da Gama (Brazil)
Alianza Lima (Peru)	v	Winner (2) (Ecuador)
Fluminense (Brazil)	v	Guarani (Paraguay)
Winner (3) (Bolivia)	v	Argentina 1
Argentina 2	v	Chile 1
River Plate (Uruguay)	v	Porongos (Uruguay)

South American Championships Schedule

- The 1997 South American U/17 Championship will be held in Paraguay.
- The 1999 South American U/17 Championship will be held in Uruguay.
- The 1997 South American U/20 Championship will be played in Chile from the 16th of January until the 2nd of February.
- The 1999 South American U/20 Championships will be played in Argentina.
- The 2000 South American Olympic qualifier will be held, the same year, in Brazil.

Women's Writes Overflow .

Trudy Diamond
Tracie McGovern
Shelley Youman
Kristy Mehan
Angie Scheibel
Coach - Mark Jones

NORTHERN TERRITORY

Fiona Pooley
Anita Lewfart
Nicole Green
Andy Martin
Sarah Cooper
Uji Judin
Helene Smith
Martha Gaw
Coach: Lenny Kilmartin

QUEENSLAND

Tanya Cowan
Amber Overton
Raeanne Dower
Mia Thompson
Lisa Dunne
Dawn Millard
Kerryn Phillips
Shae Fooks
Joanne Healy

Libby Marshall
Danielle Small
Jodie Randall
Lisa Richards
Coach - Mark Jones

Sam Bomber
Tanya Dyer
Jo Posgate
Vangi Boubaris
Leonie Wovot
Janice Brett
Deana Kilmartin
Meli Mulde

Catherine Roncato
Anita Proctor
Kim Jones
Elizabeth Georgiou
Kerrie Rowe
Georgette Leake
Vikki Barlow
Kate Mulvihill
Toni-Ann Northwood

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Julie Anderson
Renice Reeves
Claire Siggery
Wendy Carter
Kristyn Swaffer
Sharon Black
Tiffany Winn
Kimberly Morris
Dora Altintas
Coach: Kevin McCormack

TASMANIA

Carolyn Lynch
Michelle Glass
Sarah Fitzgerald
Kim Ashlin
Jane Taylor
Simone Cobern
Elizabeth Harris
Clare Dowd
Coach: Dirk Gadd

VICTORIA

Theresa Deas
Anita Ashdown
Kate Warren-Smith

Kristy Moore
Felicity Forby
Emily Bussitil
Karin Prince
Jessica Halfpenny
Bev Holland
Sarah Barker
Jodi Smith

Jodi Almond
Angela Aitken
Zoe Nolan
Megan Hingston
Jodi Wegman
Vanessa Wilson
Liz Elliott
Prue Chellis

Debra Scholefield
Denise Wright
Kate Walker

NEW CHIEF APPOINTED

AWSA last Wednesday announced the appointment of Warren Fisher as its new Chief Executive Officer. Currently General Manager

Lee-Anne Hamilton
Leigh Terek
Debbie Nichols
Lisa Davies
Carla Crawford
Kathy Zacharopoulos
Coach: Jane Oakley

Kris Tsamasiros
Christina Sidiropoulos
Melinda Marty
Daniela Digiammarco
Jackie Ford
Emma Bracken

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Tracey Wheeler
Penny Tanner
Selena Holtze
Michele Matthews
Anna Sanginiti
Diana Reeves
Erica Whisson
Audrey Williams
Lisa Tana
Coach: John Ward

Anne Lehan
Samantha Bentink
Judy Pettitt
Jill Mateljan
Debbie Farrell
Luciana Colangelo
Linda Kelly
Tal Karp
Leigh Tempest

of the Northern Territory Soccer Federation, Fisher will take up his seat in Canberra in early October.

"Warren will bring to women's soccer a strong background in sports management, a good understanding of the issues facing the sport, and strong communication skills," said AWSA President Dennis O'Brien. "He comes to us at a time of exceptional growth and development of our sport, and his challenge will be to lead the organisation through to the Sydney Olympics."

"I am particularly fortunate to be coming into this position at a time of great impetus for women's soccer in Australia and worldwide," said Fisher.

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SUCCESSFUL MANAGER MOVES FROM NORTH LONDON



As mentioned last week, we bring you an exclusive interview with the man who is taking over as the Supremo of the FA Commercial Marketing body — Phil Carling.

MB: Firstly may I say that I'm not very happy about you leaving the Gunners but can I wish you all the best for the future.

PC: (Laughing), thanks Micky but I have to say it will be a tremendous wrench to leave Highbury after seven years but I'm looking forward to the challenge at the Football Association.

MB: How did you come by the position?

PC: David Dein and Ken Friar helped a lot to be honest. They lobbied for me and gave me tips and hints on what to do and say and for that I'm very grateful. That's the thing about this club, everyone is so involved with the running that nothing is too great a problem.

Everyone helps out from top to bottom and I do say that Arsenal Football Club is THE biggest and best club in the country from that point of view. I've enjoyed my time here and would do it all again tomorrow.

MB: So why are you leaving?

PC: At the FA I will become a Director, something that will never happen at Arsenal unless I win the National Lottery (Laughs again) so it will be a fresh challenge, an opportunity to do more for English Football if you like.

MB: You say Arsenal are the best but you weren't always an Arsenal fan were you?

PC: That's true. When I came to Highbury I was actually a Chelsea fan! People ask me "How can you change your team?" And my honest answer is if you work for the best club in the land, you

become a part of it. I am a fully converted Arsenal Supporter and will remain so. When I leave here I will still retain my season tickets and will be back to watch as many games as possible at Highbury, the tradition, the club and the staff are what make it and you can't help falling in love with the place.

MB: You helped turn around the fortunes of the Arsenal merchandising wagon from 4 to 20 million a year. That's a mighty effort that may be hard to do within the national set-up?

PC: I didn't do it all by myself at Highbury of course, we had a great team and don't forget the tireless efforts of John Hazell. As for turning things around at Lancaster Gate, I have a few ideas so we'll have to wait and see?

MB: Arsenal are playing Borussia M'Gladbach in about 4 hours time, any predictions?

PC: It will be a hard game

for a first round match, it could certainly go either way if both play to potential, the odd goal will nick the tie.

MB: Phil, thanks for the call and taking the time to speak to me, much appreciated and I'll pop in for a chat in January?

PC: Anytime, I'll look forward to it, see you in January.

Mr Carling took the time to call me just hours before the kick-off between the sides mentioned above and if anyone has any idea just how busy a Commercial Marketing manager gets on match day, you'll understand just what an honour it was for me to speak to him. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank Mr Carling for his time and efforts on behalf of the Australian Arsenal Supporters Club over the years and to wish him all the very best of luck and sincere best wishes for the future. Nice bloke indeed.

Wilkinson Departs

Howard Wilkinson has left Leeds United and to be honest, you can see why. Although a fine manager in his own right, things have turned sour in Yorkshire and a parting of the ways seemed inevitable, many thought it would have happened sooner.



Wilko has apparently said that should a job not be forthcoming in the near future, he'll head down to Australia to see his daughter, very nice young lady she is too I might add, and have a holiday.

I don't think we'll be seeing him in all honesty because the Man City job is open at time of writing and he would have to be one of the three contenders for the position.

Kenny Dalglish could turn up at Maine Road but consider him the outsider.

He won championships at Liverpool with a well oiled machine and basically bought the title at Blackburn.

You can't 'buy' a title as such but when you have mega millions to spend on new players, which city certainly do not, you must hit the right combination sooner or later.

Bruce Rioch, recently departed from Highbury, would probably be top of the list but it could well turn out to be a contest between him and Wilko. With the season barely a month old, the managerial roundabout is in full swing early this year.



BOOK REVIEW

At the end of last season we told you about a wonderful book called *Survival of the Fattest* which described itself as 'the ultimate bog read'. The sad part was the fact that it was only available from the UK and that relates to SOTF2 too.

These books are about following football as seen through the eyes of those that matter, the supporters, and principally by the editors of fanzines. The end of season reviews contained within are witty, sad, tragic, boastful etc., in other words, run the full gamut of emotions. In SOTF2, 130 editors managed to find the time in the off season to put pen to paper to

make the book possible and is it worth it or what!

Co Editors Judi Holland and Dave Jenkins said: "We had so much fun putting SOTF together, we just had to have another go. Fortunately, enough like-minded people put their hand in their pocket last year and enabled us to carry on this folly for at least one more season." Dave added: "And with Alan Shearer going to Newcastle in a deal that would've built my club a new ground and secured their future in one hit — the book's title is even more relevant!" Dave follows the fortunes of a certain south coast side called Brighton.

The book contains articles from almost all 92 English league clubs and adds a

wonderful insight into the world of fanzines which most of you by now should be well and truly "into". This is a perfect way to enjoy the game and learn about other clubs too.

Survival of the Fattest 2 — Now that's what I call football!, is still only available from the UK but can be obtained by sending your cheque of 13.00 Stg to: Red Card Publishing, 4 Bowater Place, Blackheath, London SE3-8ST. Price includes Airmail postage and packaging. Do yourselves a real favour, don't take my word for it, get a copy, sit back and enjoy.

Star rating: ★★★★★ or put another way — 10 out of 10, Bloody Brilliant!

... Quote of the week

Alleged quote of the week must go to George Graham. When news filtered through that he was to be the new manager at Elland Road, one Juorno quipped at the Press Conference: "What can you do about the Leeds defence that leaks more than a barrel full of holes?"

"We'll soon 'bung' those up!" came the reply from George.

Good to see his spell out of competitive involvement in the game hasn't spoiled the "Stroller's" sense of humour at least. If he can weave his magic up north, Leeds fans will be many and extremely happy in the next couple of seasons.

Fanzines

On the subject of fanzines, the new season's efforts are pouring in already and I have to say the standards are getting better all the time. Sunderland's *A Love Supreme* was voted the best in Division One last term but they have a lot of contenders in the Premiership for that title.

Taking their place in the new Nationwide League is Manchester City and the cream of their crop is *King of the Kippax*. An A4 publication that is really out of this world for information and even in the face of adversity, humour. According to the August edition of *Four Four Two*, the Fanzine School of Excellence for last term reads:

1. Preston Pie Muncher — Preston North End.
2. Chelsea Independent — Chelsea.
3. The Tea Party — Stockport County (one of my personal favourites).
4. The Absolute Game — Scottish Fitba/General.
5. Through the wind and Rain — Liverpool.
6. It's half past four and we're 2-0 down — Dundee.
7. Forest Forever — Nottm. Forest.
8. Over Land and Sea — West Ham.
9. Wake Up Blue — Birmingham City.

Not a bad selection believe me. Anyone wanting news of fanzine addresses can write to us at the usual address or phone during office hours OK.

QPR Sack Wilkins

Queens Park Rangers, relegated from England's Premier League after last season, has dismissed player-manager Ray Wilkins.

Despite only one loss in its first four matches in the first division, QPR says it held long talks with Wilkins before a mutual decision the former England international should go.

Wilkins, 39, took over at QPR when Gerry Francis left to join Tottenham in October 1994.

George Graham could be first in line to take over from Wilkins.

Clyde

BY STUART JONES

Ground:	Broadwood Stadium.
Address:	Cumbernauld Glasgow G67.
Railway Station:	Croy (1.5 miles).
Founded:	1878.
Admitted to League:	1906.
Ground Capacity:	6,230.
Seats:	6,230.
Pitch Size:	115 75 yards.
Largest Gate:	6,200 (v Hamilton 050294).
Biggest Win:	52,000 (v Rangers Nov 1908 — Shawfield).
Heaviest Defeat:	11-0 v Cowdenbeath Div 2 6 October 1951.
	0-11 v Dumbarton Scottish Cup 4th rd,
	22 Nov 1879. 0-11 v Rangers Scottish Cup
	4th rd, 13 Nov 1880.
Nickname:	Bully Wee.
Colours:	White with red and black trim.
Honours:	League Division 2: 1904/05 1951/52
	1956/57 1961/62 1972/73.
	League Second Division: 1977/78
	1981/82 1992/93.
	Scottish Cup Winners: 1933 1955 1958.

History: Started at Barrowfield Park near the banks of the Clyde. In 1898 Clyde moved to its second and long time home of Shawfield. This ground was a trotting field. 10,000 saw them debut at the new ground and there were plans for a 100,000!! capacity stadium. The idea was put on hold when Ibrox and Hampden were redeveloped. The ground staged football, boxing and athletics. 52,000 people saw them play Rangers in 1908 while 48,500 saw them play Celtic in 1914. Greyhound racing actually saved the stadium from financial ruin. In the 1950s two sides of the ground were covered with a third side holding the main stand. In March 1954 the club switched on the floodlights for the first time in a game against Huddersfield. In the early 1970s they almost moved to Lesser Hampden but Queens Park finally decided against ground sharing. They looked at Rosebury Park but the council made it hard for them and the financial cost was too much to bare.

They then approached Partick Thistle for shared use of Firhill. this was agreed and they became the first clubs in Britain to ground share. In the late 80s the club looked at a return to Shawfield. Then in the early 1990s the club built a new stadium at Cumbernauld, the Broadwood Stadium. Now they own the ground and they ground share with others. The ground is a remarkable achievement for Clyde. However their League form could

Weird and Wonderful

A couple of managerial shock moves. The first I heard about Leeds was a mate from a Yorkshire paper ringing me to tell me. I thought he had meant Howard Kendall of Sheffield United because Leeds sacking Wilkinson was quite a shock. He really had turned the club and while they had not had success for a little while now he still was Mr Leeds United 1990s. Best of luck in looking for a new career and a big hello to his daughter Sue in Sydney. Just a note on Wilko — a week ago they defeated Blackburn away — okay a 4-0 defeat from Man Utd is really loathed by the fans but it is enough to get fired. I guess he now has more time as spokesman for the managers association. The other surprise departure was that of Ray Wilkins. Inside sources at the club say there is a bit more to this than meets the eye but Ray had seemed to get through the hard stuff — why leave now? He had held onto Dichio and Sinclair. Okay the purchases were not so good (eg Osbourn, Zelic, and Hateley) but he still has a great football brain and was even playing in the side. What of Mark Hateley — he was at QPR and loaned to Leeds and they both lose their managers!! Talk around Carlisle way was a huge money bid for Brian McClair or Mark Hateley — please Mr Knighton buy McClair not Hateley.

The news that Ray Wilkins went to Wycombe may surprise some but there is a reason. Wilkins two seasons back was let go by QPR. He was snapped up by Alan Smith then manager of Crystal Palace. Now the millionaire manager is in charge of Wycombe so Wilkins has gone there to lend him a hand. Best of luck to them both!!

Keep an eye on Lee Fortune-West (what a name) the Gillingham striker — he seems quite a talent. Young Humphries of Sheffield Wed looks good but the person I think in that team who could most shine is their other striker, former Huddersfield man Andy Booth. On a sad note Kevin Gallen has done his knee in at QPR and will be out most of the season. Tony Yeboah is out until Christmas, the same length of time Spurs Gary Mabbutt says he'll be out, but that seems to be really positive thinking!

Disappointments of the Premier League; West Ham (although injury has torn them apart) and Coventry. They talk around Highfield Road is of a place in Europe — yeah in the Anglo Italian Cup!! The surprises? Sheffield Wednesday of course (but will it last?) Sunderland and even Leicester (well they are not bottom are they?). In the first division its going to be one of those can't pick them seasons again, Bolton going so well get thumped by poor starters Southend 5-2!!

Well done to Barry Town who scored a goal away at Aberdeen in the UEFA Cup. Now a 2-0 win in the second leg will see them through!

An FA cup tie in February 1939 between Wolves and Liverpool drew a record 61,315 crowd to Molineux. The Liverpool attendance record is set at 61,905 in the FA Cup of 1952 (February as well), and yes they were playing Wolves that day!

Liverpool versus Everton once drew a crowd of over 100,000. 64,831 were at Goodison Park while at Anfield another 40,169 people watched on closed circuit television.

Both meetings between Lincoln and Wrexham drew the same number of spectators 7,735 each ground in 1976/77.

On a final note all the rumours about Wimbledon going to Dublin are pie in the sky stuff. The Authorities are trying hard for all clubs to play in their own country's competition — they certainly won't want a club to move out of one country (in terms of football) to another. Just look at the court cases involving Welsh sides like Colwyn Bay.



Duncan Ferguson: Everton and Scotland

UK STORIES

RANGERS OFF TO MISERABLE START

Kubilay Turkylmaz's dazzling skills swept Grasshopper Zurich to a 3-0 win over Glasgow Rangers in their opening European Cup Champions' League group match last week.

Switching from one wing to the other, the 29-year-old Swiss international tormented the Rangers defence, often wrongfooting Swedish defender Joachim Bjorklund who had been assigned to mark him.

Grasshopper, unfancied before the game following two lacklustre goalless draws in the Swiss championship, took the game to the Scottish champion from the start and was deservedly two goals up after half an hour.

The first came when Turkylmaz took a free kick after he had been upended



near the right corner flag. He placed the ball perfectly for Murat Yakin to rise above a ruck of defenders to head home off the post.

Ten minutes later the mercurial Turkylmaz, whose parents were immigrants to Switzerland from Turkey, scored himself. He curled a free kick from just outside the penalty area into the corner of the net.

The start of the second half was marred by a series of fouls as tempers frayed. The often fiery Turkylmaz and Rangers midfielder Stuart McCall were shown yellow cards by referee Jose-Garcia Aranda.

Rangers manager Walter Smith sought to change his side's fortunes by pulling off defender Alex Cleland in the 70th minute and replacing him with Derek McInnes.

Within seconds the switch almost paid off. A movement begun by McInnes ended with English international midfielder Paul Gascoigne blasting in a fierce shot from just outside the penalty area.

Goalkeeper Pascal Zuberbuchler parried the ball to safety.

That was the last time the Scots looked dangerous and Turkylmaz and fellow striker Viorel Moldovan were now increasingly dominant in the Rangers half.

Seconds before the final whistle goalkeeper Andy Gorm saved the Scottish side from further humiliation by pulling off a fine save from Moldovan.

★ ★ ★



David Seaman

JOHNNIE WALKER CUP DRAW



FIRST ROUND — SECOND LEG

Wed Sep 18 **Hindmarsh Stadium — 5.30pm**
H. S.A. Reds **v Collingwood Warriors**

Wed Sep 18 **Breakers Stadium, Newcastle — 7.00pm**
B. Newcastle Breakers v **Nth NSW Lions**

Wed Sep 18 **Hindmarsh Stadium — 8.00pm**
G. West Adelaide **v** **Adelaide City**

SECOND ROUND

Fri/Sat Sep 20/21 **Venue — TBA**
UTS Olympic **v** **Brisbane Strikers**

Fri/Sat Sep 20/21 **Venue — TBA**
Winner B **v** **Marconi Fairfield**

Fri/Sat Sep 20/21 **Venue — TBA**
Gippsland Falcons
or
South Melbourne **v** **Melbourne Knights**

Sun Sep 22 **Venue — TBA**
Winner G **v** **Winner H**

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